

' The spiritual master is to be honored as much as the Supreme Lord, because he is the most confidential servitor of the Lord. This is acknowledged in all revealed scriptures and followed by all authorities. Therefore I offer my respectful obeisances unto the lotus feet of such a spiritual master, who is a bonafide representative of Sri Hari [Krishna]. '



Sri Vyasa Puja

HH Kadamba Kanana Swami

April 2016

His Holiness Kadamba Kanana Swami

Vyasa Puja
2016

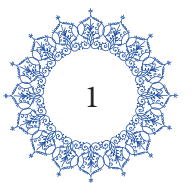


Sri Vyasa-Puja

April 2016

The Appearance Day of Our Beloved Spiritual Master

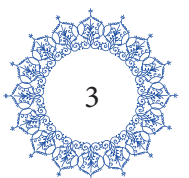
His Holiness Kadamba Kanana Swami



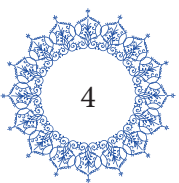


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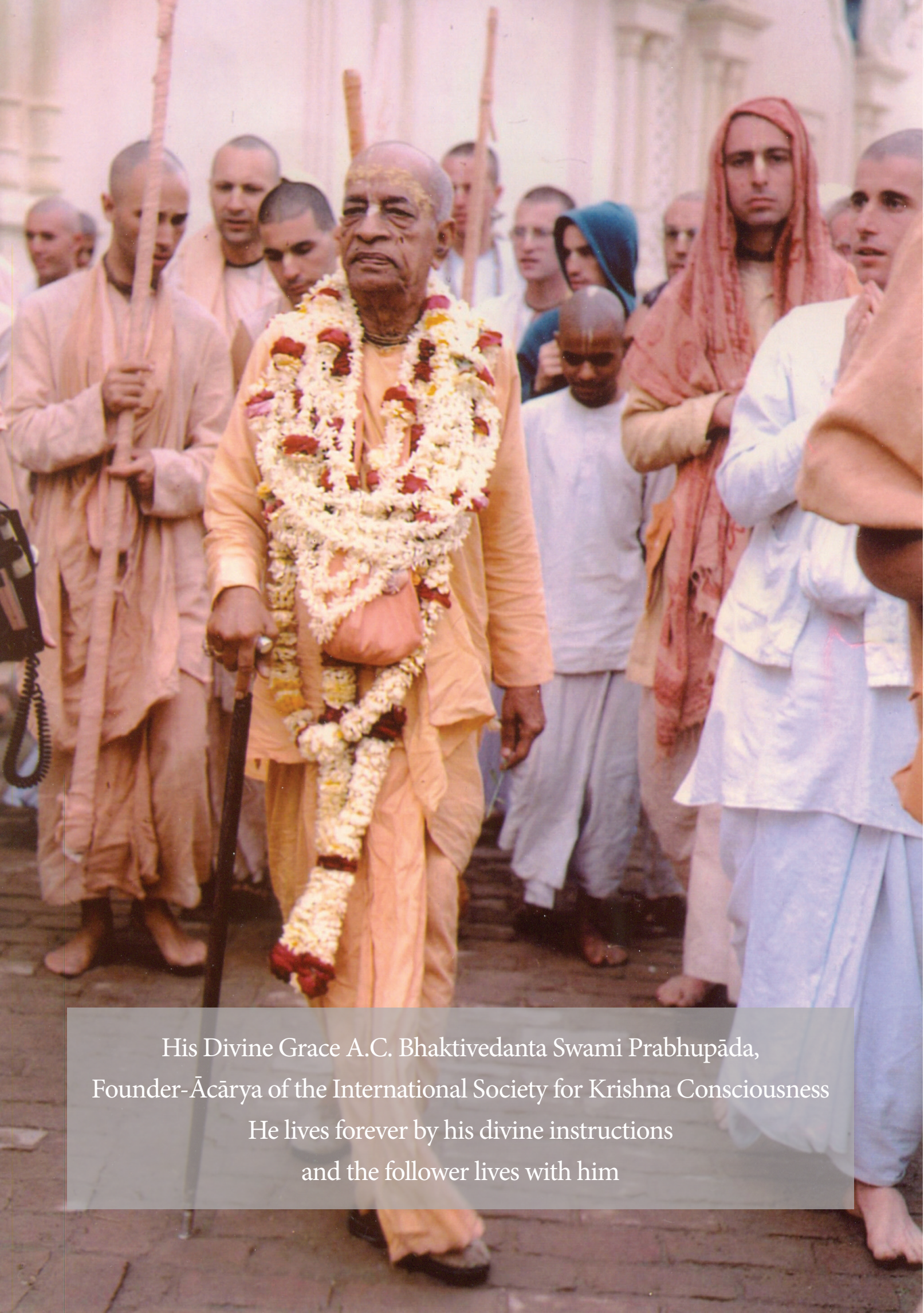
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His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupāda,
Founder-Ācārya of the International Society for Krishna Consciousness
He lives forever by his divine instructions
and the follower lives with him

“The greatest Need of the Day”

His Divine Grace A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada,

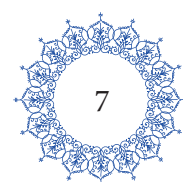
Sri Caitanya-Caritamṛta, Madhya-Lila 15.41

This is Śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu’s order to all His devotees. Kṛṣṇa-bhakti, devotion to Kṛṣṇa, is open to everyone, even low-class men like caṇḍālas. One should follow this order in the disciplic succession stemming from Śrī Advaita and Nityānanda Prabhu and distribute Kṛṣṇa consciousness without discrimination throughout the world.

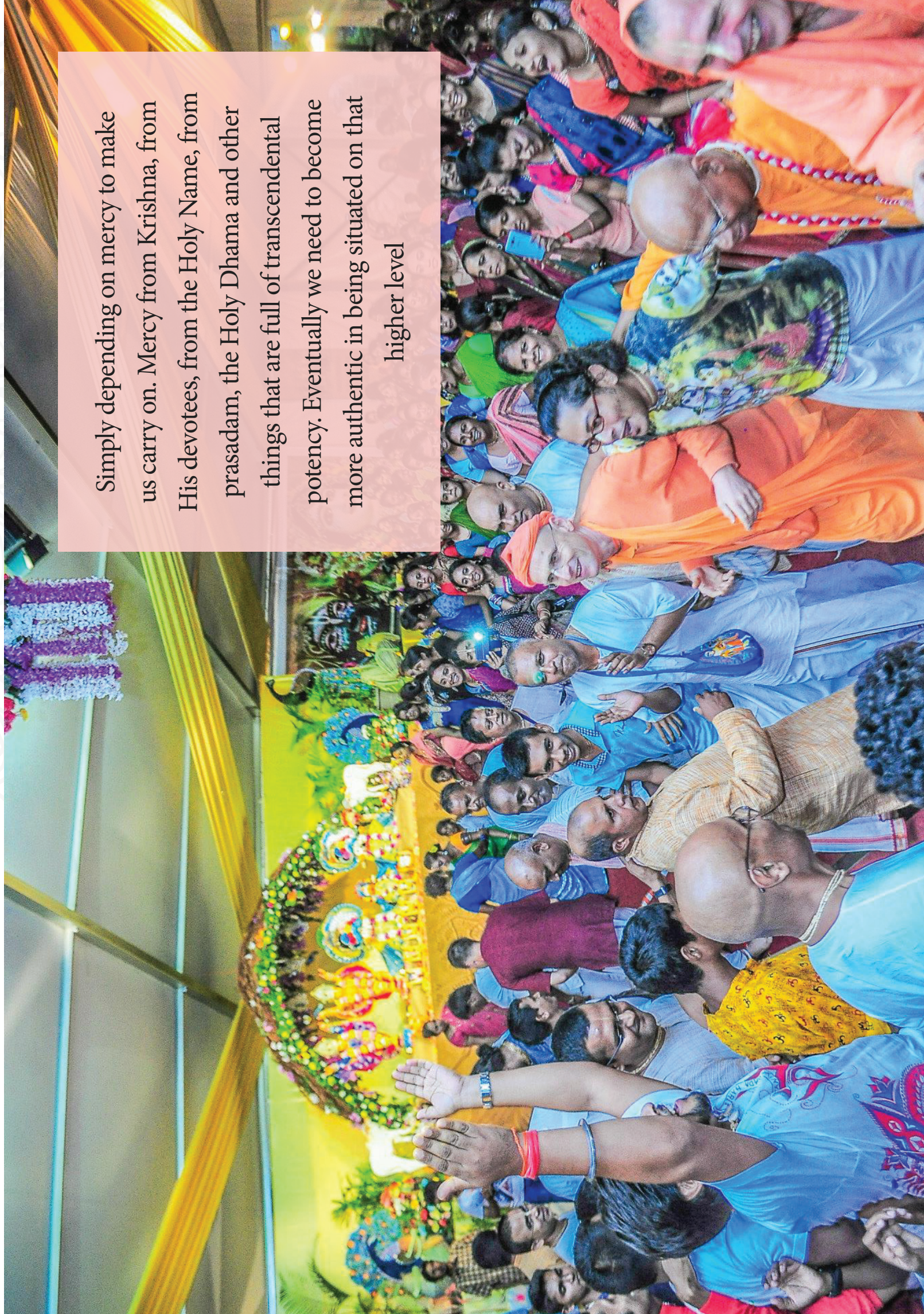
There are different kinds of men, beginning with the brāhmaṇa and going down to the lowest platform, known as caṇḍāla. Whatever one’s position, everyone in this Age of Kali needs to be enlightened in Kṛṣṇa consciousness. That is the greatest need of the day. Everyone is acutely feeling the pangs of material existence. Even in the ranks and files of the American Senate, the pinpricks of material existence are felt, so much so that April 30, 1974, was actually set aside as Prayer Day. Thus everyone is feeling the resultant pinpricks of Kali-yuga brought about by human society’s indulging in illicit sex, meat-eating, gambling and intoxication. Now is the time for the members of the International Society for Krishna Consciousness to distribute kṛṣṇa-bhakti all over the world and thus follow the orders of Śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu. The Lord has ordered everyone to become a guru (Cc. Madhya 7.128): āmāra ājñāya guru hañā tāra’ ei deśa. Everyone in every town and village should be enlightened by the instructions of Śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu. Kṛṣṇa consciousness should be distributed to everyone indiscriminately. In this way, the entire world will be peaceful and happy, and everyone will glorify Śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu, as He desires.

The word caṇḍāla actually refers to a dog-eater, who is considered the lowest of men. Even caṇḍālas can be enlightened in Kṛṣṇa consciousness due to Śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu’s benedictions. Kṛṣṇa-bhakti is not the monopoly of a certain caste. Everyone is eligible to receive this great benediction given by Śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu. Everyone should be given a chance to receive it and be happy.

The word dāna, meaning “charity,” is also significant in this verse. Whoever engages in the distribution of Kṛṣṇa consciousness is a charitable person. Professional men recite Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam and discuss kṛṣṇa-bhakti for an exchange of money. They cannot distribute such exalted transcendental property to everyone and anyone. Only pure devotees, who have no motive other than serving Kṛṣṇa, can give such transcendently valuable benedictions out of charity.



Simply depending on mercy to make us carry on. Mercy from Krishna, from His devotees, from the Holy Name, from prasadam, the Holy Dhama and other things that are full of transcendental potency. Eventually we need to become more authentic in being situated on that higher level



Significance of Sri Vyasa-Puja

by Gour Mohan dasa

Vyasa-puja day is the best day for remembering the person that Krishna chooses to accomplish the mission impossible – to deliver us, his disciples. It is also the best day for seeing within the pages of this book the potential that our revered spiritual master, His Holiness Kadamba Kanana Swami, has invested in his disciples for fulfilling his impossible yet possible plans to deliver other fallen souls. Each disciples' offering reveals the unique magic that Maharaja has performed in our hearts. This Magic is beyond any material means, but can be accomplished only through spiritual potency. This Magic is that which sustains a disciple. This Magic is happening because He is a surcharged via medium of Chaitanya Mahaprabhu's Kripa-Shakti.

Just like the story by Narayani Devi Dasi, which Maharaja likes to recount:

“You (Srila Prabhupada) were giving a talk in which you said that in order to go back home, back to Godhead, one must be cent percent pure, cent percent free of material desires and attachments. When you saw that the devotees were discouraged, you said, “Alright, 90%” Still they were dejected. Then you said, “Alright, 80%” Still they were crestfallen. Then you said, “Alright, 75% – but not less.”

After the talk, you commented, “If you just hold on to my dhoti, I will take you back to Godhead. *I have the key to the back door.*”

Therefore attachment to the lotus feet of our spiritual master is our saving grace and should never ever be given up.

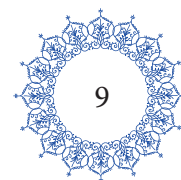
As Srila Prabhupada himself wrote, “He lives forever in his divine instructions and the follower lives with him.” As long as a disciple carries the most precious gift of the spiritual master's instructions, he will live with the spiritual master.

Let us thus avoid becoming guru-tyagi or guru-bhogi: either refusing to fulfill His desire or else pretending to do so while merely “resting on our laurels.” Above all, let us somehow cooperate for the higher purpose of developing Srila Prabhupada's mission into a glorious movement for transforming this age. That cooperation will be gratefully recognized by our spiritual master! And by this positive engagement we can attract Guru-kripa-bindu, a drop of Guru's mercy.

Our Spiritual Master is the best example of one who attracted the mercy of his Spiritual Master; because the mercy of the Spiritual Master flows through his sincere disciples, He is the perfect link—through our param-guru Jayadvaita Swami— to Srila Prabhupada and to Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu Himself.

This is a day for all of us to express our gratitude for His unflinching endeavour to rescue us and protect us from falling down again.

He is on a superlative stage of selfless service for pushing on this movement. This year he showed us the magnitude of His unflinching faith and determination during the ghastly revelation of his cancer. Un-deviated and undaunted, even amidst such circumstances, he never loses sight of the spiritual vision of the Supreme Personality of Godhead and His mission in this day and age. Nobody ever thought Maharaja would be up so quick, but it is not easy to wear down such a warrior. On receiving the news of his apparent illness, all His disciples became desperate, and realized all their shortcomings in their relationship towards Him: How much we are actually guru-tyagi or guru-bhogi. How we fail



and fail again and again to live up to his desire. But let's keep trying, because at the end of the day, He is our saving grace, our key to the backdoor.

So let us not lament in tamo-guna but *use every single fraction of our existence* to glorify our Master and *put into action the valuable instructions* we have received from him. These instructions, whether received in public lectures or in private, are the only reason a disciple continues living. Our Master is not satisfied by lip service; he wants to see actual progress in Krishna Consciousness. So let this book be an inspiration for actual action in the shape of authentic Guru-seva! Otherwise it will be nothing but a big bluff. Let us just try our utmost to become pure by strictly following his wishes! All actions we perform, positive as well as negative, create effects for our Guru Maharaja.

All the offerings of our God-family are living examples of this attempt to honour our spiritual master. They are like different flowers that we have strung together in this book for the glorification of His Holiness Kadamba Kanana Swami, who is our Supreme Personality of **Servitor Godhead**. The smell of this garland is otherworldly and it is strongly enhanced with real and vibrant guru-seva.

I'm so excited to smell that garland. Let's read!

Appreciations

His Holiness Sacinandana Swami

Dear Kadamba Kanana Maharaja

Please accept my humble obeisances. All Glories to Srila Prabhupada.

Of all the many qualities, which inspire me personally in your life let me focus today on one: you never give up. Despite problems which come due to your body or obstacles presented by other living entities, your faith in the glories and transcendental nature of devotional service always moves you on to conquer all obstacles. Sometimes when I saw you fighting with physical difficulties I mentioned that maybe you should take more care of the body, but you would shrug your shoulders and say, “This body is destined to give misery.” You almost indicated the body’s duty is to give misery and it does not give up its duty, so why should I give up my duty to devotional service.

Your persistence in the face of obstacles is not informed by a sense of duty. It comes from a deep, abiding taste. A person who has taste - genuine taste - always wants to have more. In the same way you have genuine taste in your outstanding service to Srila Prabhupada and therefore you are not stopping.

Can we imagine a Kadamba Kanana Maharaja who stops dancing, enthusiastically chanting?

Can we imagine Kadamba Kanana Maharaja who will not give a lecture when he is called to give a lecture?

Can we imagine Kadamba Kanana Maharaja stopping to give spiritual counsel to those who need it?

Certainly not.

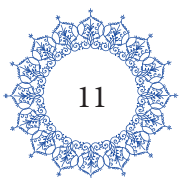
I think by your service attitude you have proved to Srila Prabhupada, Krishna and the world of Vaisnavas that you are genuinely inspired in Krishna consciousness and relishing a taste beyond the body and the mind. Real life lies beyond the body and the mind. This is one of the lessons which your wonderful service spells out to us.

I wish you a fast and complete recovery and am looking forward to see you soon somewhere on the path of service. Please know that I have great affection for you. When I heard about your recent health reports from South Africa I noticed how much I care for you.

Wishing you all the best and may the family of devotees expand

Your humble servant

Sacinandana Swami



His Holiness Candramauli Swami

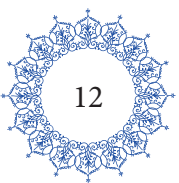
Dear Kadamba Kanana Swami Maharaja,

My humble obeisances. All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

A powerful kirtaneer that continuously causes the kirtan room to explode with enthusiastic dancing. Always has been a kind friend, an enthusiastic preacher of Krsna Consciousness. I offer my humble obeisances to His Holiness Kadamba Kanana Maharaja on the occasion of his appearance.

Grateful to have your association Maharaja,

Candramauli Swami





Offerings

Adikarta Dāsa

nama om visnu-pádāya krsna-presthāya bhú-tale
śrimate kadamba kánana svámin iti námine

nama om visnu-pádāya krsna-presthāya bhú-tale
guru dāsa jayadvaita svámin iti námine

nama om visnu-pádāya krsna-presthāya bhú-tale
śrimate bhaktivedānta-svámin iti námine

namas te sárasvate deve gaura-vání-pracárine
nirviśesa-śúnyavádi-páścátya-deśa-tárine

Lieber Guru Maharaja,

Nehmen Sie bitte meine achtungsvollen Ehrerbietungen im Staub Ihren Lotosfüßen an.

Alle Ehre sei an Ihrer Heiligkeit.

Alle Ehre sei an Sri Gauranga. Alle Ehre sei an Ihrem Guru Maharaja. HH Srila Guru Dasa Jayadvaita Swami. Alle Ehre sei an Srila Prabhupada.

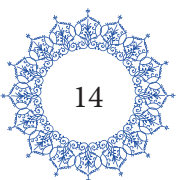
Dank Ihrer Grundlosen Barmherzigkeit, der Barmherzigkeit meines spirituellen Meisters Srila Guru Maharaja Kadamba Kanana Swami, kann Ich ein paar Zeilen als mein Offering zu schreiben, denn es findet Ihre vyasa-puja bald Ihren statt. Diese äußerst glückverheißende Begebenheit ist dauerhaft ein für immer ein Feiertag für das Weltall.

Sie Sind und bleiben unter allen möglichen, auch unmöglichen Umständen, ein für alle Mal ein Ozean der grundlosen Barmherzigkeit. Der Körper kann vielleicht eine Menge von missgünstigen Komfort erstellen, doch die unendlich transzendente Ausstrahlung Ihres Lotosfüßens, den Lotosfüßens eines echten spirituellen Meisters, bei deren Schatten viele Prabhus Zuflucht finden, wird durch solche Umstände keinesfalls, und auch durch keinen Schatten, bedeckt. Dies bleibt gültig in aller Rücksicht im Zusammenhang in der Beziehung zu Ihrer äußerst günstigen Person. Für mich, und nicht nur für mein Selbst, aber für alle Ihre Schüler, und auch die ganze Welt, ist Ihre beste mögliche Gesundheit unter anderem ein und alles. Ich möchte durch diese Zeilen vor allem Ihnen die möglichste Gesundheit wünschen. Dann steht der Welt Ihre, für Weltall äußerst brauchwürdige Gnade weiter zur Verfügung, unabhängig davon, dass sich dessen eine Vielzahl der Lebewesen unbedingt nicht bewusst sein muss. Was mich weiter betrifft, ich bin sehr zufrieden, schon nur, wenn ich mich auf demselben Planeten mit Ihnen zusammen befinden darf, so lange, und bis wohin es Sie für gut halten.

Mit größter Dankbarkeit und voller Demut, möchte Ich Ihre Lotosfüße, die Lotosfüße meines spirituellen Meisters, Srila Guru Maharaja Kadamba Kanana Swami, ununterbrochen verehren und auch daher neige ich mich Ihnen stets erneut und bringe Ihnen, mit herzlichen Glückwunsch auch, bei der Gelegenheit Ihrer Vyasa-puja, meine achtungsvolle Ehrerbietungen dar.

In Ihren Dienst Ihr ewiger Schuldner und unansehnlicher Schüler

Adikarta Dasa



Aditi Devi Dasi

Dear Kadamba Kanana Swami Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances at your divine lotus feet.

All glories to you, Maharaja,

All glories to Jayadvaita Swami,

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

Going to the Retreat in Drakensburg, South Africa, with you and the devotees was such a special time. You were so caring and most of all hilarious, especially when you advertised the trip to Alphine Heath Resort. You were prepared to do anything the devotees wanted to do. The moments of your association will always be treasured. Your *kirtans* and classes were also most enjoyable. During the hikes, you walked miles ahead of us. I will never forget the encounter with the snake! You conveyed a mood of intense humility and gratitude to us for attending. The experience was like the rays of sunshine illuminating darkness. It was most enjoyable!

So, Guru Maharaja, another year has gone by. I wish you lots of strength to enlighten the world with Krsna Consciousness through your beautiful *kirtan*, lectures and sense of humor. Srila Prabhupada said that one can have everything materially in this world but if they do not have Krsna *bhakti*, then they have nothing. I pray that you will shower some of your mercy on me too, this fallen soul. Please take care of your health so you can always be on “our side”. Recently, I read on the blog that you drove to the beach. How wonderful! Please drive us back to Godhead too.

Happy vyasa-puja!

Your disciple forever,

Aditi Devi Dasi

Advaita Simha Dāsa

My Dear Guru Maharaja,
Please accept my humble obeisances.
All glories to Srila Prabhupada.
All glories to Jayadvaita Swami.
All glories to you Guru Maharaja.

yasya prasadaḥ bhagavat-prasado
yasya prasadan na gatih kuto pi
dhyayan stuvams tasya yashas tri-sandhyam
vande guroh sri-caranaravindam

It is just due to your mercy that I am still inspired to go on in my spiritual life because you set the right example of how a real vaisnava should be.

You always gave 108% to please Krishna and his devotees and you hold nothing back. In the last week of the marathon we received the message that you surprisingly want to fly from South Africa to Germany to inspire all your disciples and sankirtan devotees here at Simhachalam. By hearing this news we became empowered to distribute more than in the previous weeks.

Then finally we got your association for about three days and every second was the greatest nectar.

How you spoke about Krishna, Srila Prabhupada and the sankirtan mission, it was so deep and clear that we could hear your words with the ears from our hearts.

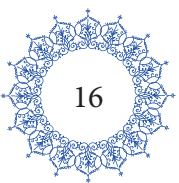
Now again we received a message but this time we learned about your health condition. It was in the morning time during japa that one devotee called me to inform me about your situation. From that time on the meditation on you became very strong it feels like that you are closer than ever before.

You showed me how powerful it is to meditate on the Spiritual Master and that he is always present in the heart of his disciple. Please don't leave us yet as I am still a little child and I am lost without a father who guides me back home back to Godhead.

In the class at NityanandaTrayodasi you said that, "*Preaching gives life*," so with your blessings Guru Maharaja I can increase in sankirtana and become steady to give you more and more life so that we all can still have the great benefit of your association, so that we can learn to become real servants.

Thank you so much for giving me the opportunity to serve you. Hopefully this message meets you in good health.

Your aspiring servant of the servant,
Advaita Simha Dasa



Amrtavani Devi Dasi

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Hare Krsna!

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada!

All glories to you!

I have known you for over eleven years and still continue to be astounded by your amazing qualities. I have always been the type of person to focus on the dark clouds rather than the sunlight, quick to anger, quick to judge, a great pretender. But you lifted me up, gave me a place in your very own family and have taken me on a journey that has been beyond anything I could have ever conceived of.

Sometimes when I transcribe your lectures, I wish it could do you justice. You use all your faculties to attract us to Krsna - not just your deeply profound words, but also your colourful personality, filled with dramatic gestures and humour. You fanned the slightest spark in me and gave me the greatest gift - a tangible link to the parampara and a most sacred mantra to chant on the purest, most potent Tulasi beads. And you continue to try to find something good in me and continue to drench me in your mercy, even though I am too unconscious to notice or appreciate this most of the time.

In your lectures, you encourage us to become swan messengers, and I think, wow! With your inconceivable generosity and potency, this is the vision you present us with - something to aspire for, even with all our faults! When I think about how you tolerated me for all these years, then I am inspired to be more tolerant and forgiving. When I think about your kindness, your complete generosity in giving your time, in giving yourself to the mission of Srila Prabhupada, then I am inspired to discover ways in which to contribute to this wonderful mission. When I see even now how you are so transcendental to the recent upheavals in your life, then I too am inspired to try to look beyond our material limitations.

And I know, as has been the case many times before that I will fail in my good intentions and aspirations. But I also know that you are always there, protecting me with your prayer, guiding me with your instructions, and always renewing my faith with your personal presence that we are so fortunate to be blessed with.

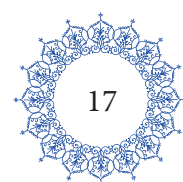
Dear Guru Maharaja, in my degraded state, what can I possibly do to repay my debt to you? All I pray for is to be able to serve you, your mission, and the devotees of the Lord. Perhaps then my heart may be cleansed and I will be able to truly know you and appreciate you.

My hope on this Vyasa puja and always is that our Lord continues to use you as His most vibrant and compassionate instrument, attracting people from all over to Krsna Consciousness. It is a rare soul who can connect with such purity to the Lord and still relate to us ordinary people in such a personal, down to earth way that we can feel free to be ourselves.

Thank you for awarding me the privilege of calling you my Spiritual Master.

Your servant,

Amrtavani Devi Dasi



Ananda Vrindavan dasi

Dear Maharaj,

Please accept my humble obeisance and best wishes for your appearance day. All glories to Srila Prabhupada, Srila Bhakti Tirtha Maharaj and yourself!

I wanted to give you something beautiful for this most special occasion, something precious or impressive – to write a poem at least! But faced with my limitations, being just very ordinary person, I offer you this way whatever little affection and gratitude I have in me.

Devotees recall how Srila Prabhupad was narrating to a female reporter a pastime when Bhaumasura had kidnapped all those princesses who were then rejected by a society, unable to marry again. But then as Krsna saved them from their imprisonment, upon seeing their predicament and sorrow, he just smiled and invited them to His shelter saying: ‘Come on!’

I similarly recall a time in my life when I felt very confused and knew only that I need your shelter. I remember how, standing near Srila Prabhupad’s murti, you’ve answered: ‘I hardly know you, but I have a good feeling. And most of all, I am just a servant of Bhakti Tirtha Swami, so – alright!’ At that time I almost heard Krsna saying: ‘Come on!’ The same generosity was there, the same willingness to extend helping hand and selflessly offer a solace for the heart in difficult times. How can I ever forget that?

Therefore, we need you – we need you to stay with us for many more years to come, to train us further, to love us further, and to prove to you further that you have invested in the right people. Especially we need you to contribute to the world with your writings, oh how we long for these!

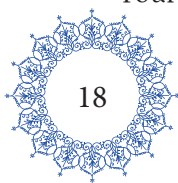
So thank you for being for me: a light, a song, a dance, a rose, a thunderbolt, a laughter, a hope. A friend, a role-model, a pride, and a perfect example who is still so humanlike. I know that this sounds like a perspective of an ant trying to describe a mountain. Still, I enjoy it and look forward discovering more – more of love that is there saved for us. More opportunities to embrace miracles and magic in finding ourselves being a part of Lord’s sankirtan lila. Such an amazing, adventurous life we have been given, and it is you who made selfless arrangements for that. I pray on this day I remember that daily and live to please you, as you live to please your Masters and all of us. It was so ecstatic to witness especially lately how much you are appreciated and loved deeply by all around the globe. I remember once listening in amazement to your class and then spontaneously exclaiming to myself: ‘That Krsna is surely a lucky guy, as He has gotten Maharaj’s love!’

I conclude with a dream I once had: We were following you in parikrama through some sacred Bengali village. I was just behind you and then you suddenly stopped to pay your obeisance. Seeing your holy feet, I thought that this might be my unique chance so I quickly kneeled down and start taking the sacred dust upon my head. While doing so, you suddenly turned back and caught me. I felt very embarrassed but then you said with a smile: ‘That’s ok!’, bringing tremendous joy to my heart.

I wish I always follow you and have your mercy upon my foolish head – a mercy of Krsna’s beloved servant which I proudly and gratefully wear. Thank you so much for giving me life, a life I can share meaningfully with others and thus be a small, happy part of this great Gauranga’s mission.

With all the affection and respect of my little heart,

Your humble servant, Ananda Vrindavan dasi



Andreas Backe

Mein geliebter Guru Maharaja,

Als ich Dich zum ersten Mal, im Bhakti-Retreat 2015 in der Schweiz, sah und hörte fing mein Herz an zu hüpfen und als ich dann Deinen Kirtan zum ersten Mal hörte zerfloss mein Herz, Dann wusste ich Du bist mein Guru! und nur Du kannst mich zu Krishna führen!

Für mich bist Du mit Abstand der einfühlsamste und beste Kirtan singender Guru in dieser Materiellen Welt. Und ich hoffe Du wirst uns noch mit sehr, sehr vielen Kirtans erfreuen! Und ich danke Dir das Du in Dieser Materiellen Welt erschienen bist um Deine Schüler zurück zu Krishna zu führen!

Jaya Radhe Jaya Krishna Jaya Prabuphada Jaya Kadamba Kanana Swami für immer!

Your servant,

Andreas Backe

Anilan

Your Holiness,

Please accept my humble obeisances,

All glories to Srila Prabhupada!

Dearest Maharaja,

I am not your disciple, nor have we met before, but your spirit of bhakti has been the nourishing ground into which my curiosity into Srila Prabhupada's movement was planted around four years ago. Listening to your humorous yet enlightening lectures and dancing to your electric kirtan is what inspired me to "just give this a try, "and I am so, so glad that I did!! Thank you for being such an impact on me, for allowing me to enter into Srila Prabhupada's movement and opening my hard heart to the transcendental flavours of bhakti.

I pray to soon meet you at Sri Radha Radhanath, to be in your presence and to jump to your sweet kirtan. Hare Krishna Maharaja

The servant of your servant of your servant,

Anilan

(Durban, South Africa)

Antardvip Dāsa

Hare Krsna dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances at your lotus feet. All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada! All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami! All glories to you!

Please let me happily express my gratitude and best wishes at the occasion of the day of your appearance in this world, which is for us, your disciples and aspirants, the greatest blessing after countless hopeless lifetimes.

You have appeared in this world to deliver many fallen conditioned souls lost in this vast labyrinth of nescience, false hopes and unfulfilled promises. We had been deceived by our own selfish desire to enjoy independently of the Supreme Lord. Krsna did not want us to go, but we wanted to try it. In return the material energy offered us the glittering mirage of temporary happiness coming hand in hand with substantial portion of real suffering. The more we were trying to squeeze some taste from this material world, the lower we were dipping into swamp of difficulties, life after life.

Somehow or other, by inconceivably good fortune and by your incredible mercy we got the opportunity to step out of this vicious circle. You compassionately threw the lifeline to us and pulled us out of that bottomless swamp. Thus we were allowed to take shelter at the pure devotee of Sri Krsna, connect to this wonderful vaisnava sampradaya and join the association of noble elevated souls who enjoy real imperishable happiness in the service to the Supreme Lord. You granted us the chance to gain the necessary knowledge for dispelling the illusory mirage and false hopes for material satisfaction. You offered us one way ticket back home, back to Godhead.

I do not know if I am making any advancement on this journey. Sometimes it seems that I am a hopeless case, taking the slowest possible lane on the transcendental highway of devotional service. But the fact, that you have kindly accepted me as your disciple gives me not only hope but certainty, that finally sooner or later I will reach the destination. Many things are changing in life, but one thing remains unshakeable: The eternal relationship with you. In this unstable world full of uncertainties you are like a firm pillar which we can catch hold, turn it to with trust and rely on every day. Regardless what happens and which circumstances will come up, I know, that you are here, selflessly, self-sacrificingly and lovingly offering your helping hand and guidance. And it will be so forever.

caṅṣu-dāna dila yei, janme janme prabhu sei,

‘One who has opened my eyes, he is my master life after life.’ (Guru-Vandana Prayers).

Dear Guru Maharaja, thank you for all the wonderful and precious moments in your association, which are for us the greatest gifts to be remembered for the rests of our lives. Thank you for the loving gestures melting the heart and showing how much you care about us. Thank you for all the kind and sweet chastisements, which you do softly with grace, although sometimes I would surely deserve to be beaten with the stick. Although such beating from your hands would be after all also blissful nectar. I am eternally grateful to you for everything.

Thank you for every little service which I am allowed to do for you. Please allow me to assist you further in your amazing mission of serving your dear spiritual master, Srila Prabhupada and Lord Caitanya Mahaprabhu. I pray so much that your health is excellent and that you easily overcome any problem which could impede your preaching.

Your humble servant,

Antardvip Dasa



Anukampana Devi Dasi

Dear Kadamba Kanana Swami,
Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.
All glories to Jayadvaita Swami.
All glories to your Holiness.

Where are the right words and actions to express the gratitude I have for having such a well-wisher, a Spiritual Master like you? Even though lacking in so many qualities and talents, still you are simply so nice, our nicest friend in material world. I am very grateful for this past year, bringing me into your ever-new association, finding you to be my Spiritual Master and accepting initiation from you and you having faith in me to be able to do this.

Thank you for being spontaneous with me, even it is your great mercy to save the fallen souls rather than simply spontaneity. Without your mercy there is nothing more than the outer covering of devotional service. That is the first thing I learned from you when I met you first time little over a year ago in Bavarian forest and such devotional service does not bring us very far but the seed of devotional service dries up. You are the perfect example of not only being the outer covering, but deep down love for Krishna. For such a newcomer, it is astonishing, are all those qualities even real! So it is very amazing to me to have all this mercy available in my life, even though I'm like a bucket that is not easy to fill up with its holes of material desires.

Once you shared wisdom from Tamal Krishna Goswami that the Spiritual Master gives the disciple a greater vision of his life than he can himself imagine. I wish I could fully understand how the mercy of our spiritual master and Krishna can carry us to great strength, overcoming mountains and speaking eloquent words. Even most of the time I do not have much trust to Krishna your every deeply spoken word reminds me of this task of making our life a greater mission, to dedicate it for a greater cause of Krishna conscious world. Even such a nonsense like me can take part because of the faith you have in us.

Your instructions keep us on the path back to Godhead which is sometimes full of these subtle mines bringing us back to material mind-set. But you are showing which steps to take by singing, dancing and talking about Krishna past those mines with full understanding that eventually they would bring us down if we do not every day add Krishna to our ways.

I pray I can endlessly take shelter on your instructions, they are my protection from illusion. Hearing about your health-condition I hope it would get healed and you could give us your association still long to go because we need it. You gave me the greatest things in life - devotional service and the association of vaisnavas, now I just pray I could somehow or other do my service in a pleasing way, living up to being your disciple which is a great honour.

Your servant,
Anukampana Devi Dasi

Anuradha Sevanandi Devi Dasi

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisance.

All glorious to Jayadvita Swami!

All glorious to Srila Prabhuapda!

My first vyasa-puja offering to dear Guru Maharaja. Thank you for accepting me as your servant.

I remember my first darshan with you at Hare Krishna centre in Stockholm, when I was not able to walk. You come to the table I was sitting and enquired about my health. I saw compassion in your eyes. I realized my fortunate position when you accepted me and when I took shelter under your lotus feet. I understand that this process of Krishna consciousness is pure and is like a mirror where I could see through myself. It is so obvious under your guidance and protection.

Maharaja your instruction to me is always 'to find balance in life.' Dear Guru Maharaja, how will I find it? As you my Guru give all strength and energy to this movement at the cost of your health!

Holding tightly to your lotus feet, my only desire is to please you, serve you, and all vaisnavas, thereby pleasing Krishna. I take this opportunity to beg and seek your blessings for sincerity and purity in whatever little service I do.

All glories to you!!

Always Your servant,

Anuradha Sevanandi Devi Dasi



Arundhati Devi Dasi

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my most humble obeisances.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

All glories to Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to you!

You are the source of my inspiration for my service in the Govindas restaurant in G tteborg. I am not courageously enough to go out on sankirtan but I am very happy that Krishna provides me the possibility to spread Lord Caitanya's mercy by distributing prasadam in Sweden. Unfortunately by having this big responsibility of running the restaurant my husband and I are not able to travel so easily to see you. Especially now, when I heard that you are diagnosed to have cancer, I am very sorry not being able to see you. The only way, how we try to support you is, by spreading the mission and hoping that Krishna is pleased with our service and that you will also get some benefit out of this. In our Yatra we are just a few devotees and it looks like that it is essential that we participate in it, that the festivals can take place.

For Lord Nityananda's appearance day we performed a little drama, were Lord Nityananda and Lord Caitanya meet for the first time. I offered it for you and I really hope, that Lord Nityananda is pleased and it will enable you to go on with the preaching and spreading Lord Caitanya's mercy! Attached some pics:

I am really thankful that you accepted me as your disciple and this year it is the seventh year already. I am hoping that I am a little useful in ISKCON even if I am not qualified.

Your disciple,

Arundhati Devi Dasi

Bahulasva Dāsa

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada!

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami!

All glories to you!

*nama om visnu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-presthāya bhū-tale
śrimate kadamba kānana svāmin iti nāmine*

*nama om visnu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-presthāya bhū-tale
guru dāsa jayadvaita svāmin iti nāmine*

Among the list of qualities of a devotee described by Krisnadas Kaviraj, the first one is, He is very kind to everyone. When I first approached you just for protection and for having siksa I was not sure if could do so and I was somewhat pushed by devotees so I felt I took a risk. I had doubt about myself as becoming a practicing devotee.

But you took it easy and gradually with me, and it also took some years before I got initiation. I was all the time doubting if I was serious enough or rather if was ready to give up materiel attachment. But I could also see that there was a more genuine and lasting pleasure in devotional service. I could also see from that first approach to you as a disciple, that you were just that kind person, because you could see my doubt and hesitation along with some small interest for Krishna and devotional service.

So you said to me that I will be happy to take you further in Krishna consciousness. So in this way I am still hanging around. Sometimes the disciple might think that the Spiritual Master is not so kind, but actually he is, always, because the guru has to cut off the false ego which prevent us from our relation with Krishna and the devotees. It can hurt for a while like a surgeon, guru has to remove the bad thing and after surgery we feel relief. At least some of it is gone. Probably we have to go again, because our ego is big and not so easy to remove just in one operation. So kindness is important because it makes you trust a person. It takes some time to realize that a life in service to guru and Krishna is so much more satisfying than any kind of materiel life.

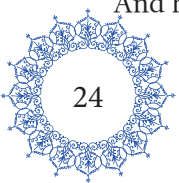
Another vaisnava quality is being a friend. Several occasions you have mentioned that you are our friend, and that you see us as your friend. In a description of twenty six qualities of Srila Prabhupada, one is as a friend, where Srila Prabhupada writes in a letter dated 24 July 1967:

"Convey my ardent affection and blessings for all the boys and girls. I am very much hopeful of my movement. Please keep steady, follow all my instructions scrupulously chant Hare Krishna and Krishna will give you all strength."

And you send a letter to all of us saying:

"You are all wonderful people, I know you personally and know that you have a heart of gold. I pray that you may find the strength to dedicate yourself to devotional service for the rest of your life. It is so nice if we can approach Kṛṣṇa at the end of life, when there is no sin, then there is an open heart and no fear of death."

So Prabhupada he gave all his blessings to his boys and girls who continued his mission. And he said if you follow my instructions Krishna will give you strength. And you Maharaja, as



our true friend you do the same by asking us to stay in devotional service for the rest of our lives and in that state approach Krishna at the end of life. So this is your kindness, this is a friend, simply praying that we shall remain in devotional service.

So you are truly our friend, because you think what is the benefit in the long run, so then I feel I should do something to you, as a friend. What am I doing? I am assisting at the best of my ability in temple programs, Sunday feasts, sadhu sangha and home programs. That I do together with my wife who is a very good cook.

And I started this translation work for vanipedia just one year ago after vyasa-puja. It gives me a wonderful access and association with Srila Prabhupada's texts, lectures, morning walks and so on. I am very pleased with that service.

You can never pay back the debt to guru. But we have to do something. I am trying to adopt that quality that is so nicely expressed in your dealings with everyone - the quality of kindness. You mentioned how Srila Prabhupada had this character of strictness and kindness combined. And that we should also develop that. Strict with oneself and kind to others.

Your servant,

Bahulasva Dasa

Balarama Dāsa

Hare Krsna,

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

All glories to Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to you.

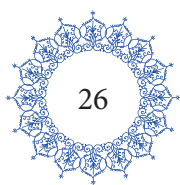
I am so happy to be your disciple. I do not want any other guru, only you. Every day I bow down to your picture. Due to this I am able to improve my determination and enthusiasm to distribute Srila Prabhupada's books and prasadam. Actually now I look forward when I will be again on street and when I will meet new peoples who will take Srila Prabhupada's books.

I am so happy that you reply me on my Ekadashi reports so often. In my heart I live with you. Sure we - our team (you, me and all other disciples) will be in Krsna's hard working team also in next life. I look forward. We will forever serve Krsna, make new devotees and distribute Srila Prabhupada books, all this with pure joy and without oblige.

Hare Krsna,

Your disciple,

Balarama Dasa



Bali Mardana Dāsa

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my most humble obeisances to you.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

All glories to Jayadvaita Maharaja.

All glories to you.

I am very excited to hear that Maharaja is coming to visit Leicester soon. Maharaja is coming for only a day for the special visit. Maharaja came for morning program with a blissful kirtan and with word of wisdom in his class. Maharaja's class was based on the topic of devotional service and one of the point that Maharaja spoke about was, *'Transformation begins when one is in devotional service.'*

After the program, I was fortunate enough to be invited to take prasadam with Maharaja at devotee's house. At that point, I sat down in the dining area with other devotees. Hereafter, I said to Maharaja:

"I have early vyasa-puja donation for you, Maharaja."

Then I take the white envelope out of my pocket and placed on the table. Maharaja with a jolly mood patted the envelope.

Whilst we were eating prasadam together, Maharaja taken a bowl from his plate and tipped it in my plate, from this I was surprised after that, Maharaja offered me a chapatti and in response I said,

"Yes please Maharaja."

I discussed with Maharaja on his latest activity and the Soweto project. I am very grateful that Maharaja has accepted me as his disciple. Maharaja is always so merciful towards me. I felt that I was a fallen souls yet Maharaja always gave his blessing unto me.

I hope to continue to serve Srila Prabhupada's mission under your guidance.

Your Servant,

Bali Mardana Dasa

Bhakta Andrej

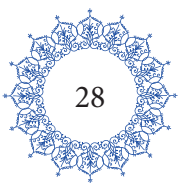
Dear Master,

I offer you my humble obeisances.

By words I cannot express my gratitude and happiness for giving me the shelter by your lotus feet. For me you are the unlimited source of inspiration in devotional service and thanks to your mercy you gave me the chance for return back home. I am beholden to you eternally by my life and soul. May I serve your will and may your desire become my desire.

Your eternal servant,

Bhakta Andrej



Candrabhanu Dāsa

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my most humble obeisances.

All glories to you.

All glories to Jayadvaita Maharaja.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

You are the most important person for us all. No every one realize this. But it is so. Year after year I try to instil it and act accordingly. Yes, without you no one can make any advancement. It is not possible without your mercy - without mercy of spiritual master. We are only insignificant living souls. Almost impotent in this direction. Please forgive us our offenses and allow us, me, to serve you, devotees, Srila Prabhupada and Supreme Personality of Godhead Sri Krishna. To serve the Holy Name:

Hare Krishna Hare Krishna,

Krishna Krishna Hare Hare,

Hare Rama Hare Rama,

Rama Rama Hare Hare.

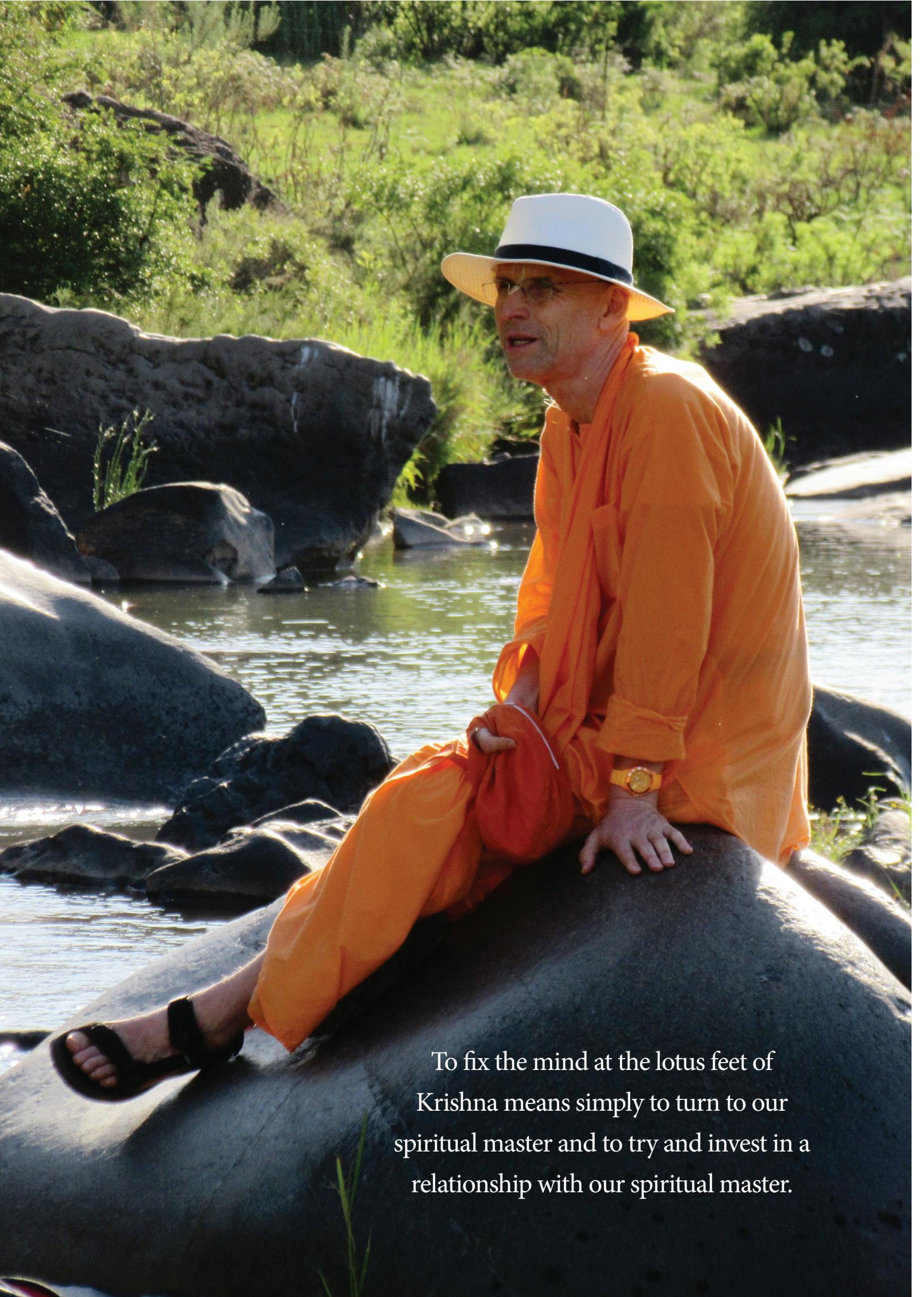
“To become qualified to attain love of Godhead, the mature fruit of liberation, one must first subdue the rebellious material mind. Though difficult, this can be achieved when a person replaces his addictions to sense gratification with a taste for the higher pleasures of spiritual life. But only by the favour of the representative of Godhead, the spiritual master, can one gain this higher taste.” (Srimad Bhagavatam.10.87.33, Purport by Srila Prabhupada).

I wish you to distribute the love of God for many years to the world and please allow us to help you in this service.

Your most humble servant and rascal,

Candrabhanu Dasa

(Bhakta Christoph, Czech Republic)



To fix the mind at the lotus feet of
Krishna means simply to turn to our
spiritual master and to try and invest in a
relationship with our spiritual master.

Bhakta Matus

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances.

I am very grateful that you always, when it was possible, found time to inspire me and advise me to be able at least start with devotional service. This material world is very cruel and I am still forgetting this fact. Gradually I am starting to have fear that I might waste this life. All the mercy is available, it is enough to sincerely desire to get it. Therefore, I pray for your mercy, that I would be able to be in your presence for a long time.

Your servant,
Bhakta Matus

Bhakta Musa

*nama om vishu padaya krishna presthaya bhutale
srimate kadamba kanana swamin iti namine*

‘I offer my my respectful obeisances unto the Lotus Feet of Srimate Kadamba Kanana Swami Maharaja, who very dear to Lord Krishna, having taken shelter of.’

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

All glories to Jayadvaita Maharaja.

All glories unto your lotus feet.

It is said that to cross the ocean of miseries, one needs an expert boatman. That expert boatman is the spiritual master. Maharaja, I am not worthy to write a vyasa-puja offering, but out of your flowing ocean of mercy unto this conditioned soul, I am writing.

Knowing you Maharaja for months it is like I have known you for years or life after life. It said that after so many lifetime’s, one get in contact with the spiritual master. Maharaja seeing you everyday either personal or picture the heart melts into pieces. That the potency of a spiritual master I may not be perfect in this world Maharaja, but I know I have you.

sākṣāḍ-dharitvena samasta-śāstrair uktas tathā bhāvyata eva sadbhiḥ

‘The spiritual master is to be honored as much as the Supreme Lord, because he is the most confidential servitor of the Lord.’

yasya prasādād bhagavat-prasādo yasyāprasādān na gatiḥ kuto ‘pi

‘By the mercy of the spiritual master one receives the benediction of Krishna. Without the grace of the spiritual master, one cannot make any spiritual growth/advancement.’

Gurudeva, as much as I can say, my soul says, “Thank you for saving me from the shackles of repeated birth and death.”

Glories unto your lotus feet.

Your unworthy aspiring servant,

Bhakta Musa

(Sri Sri Radha Radhanath Temple)

Bhakta Patrik

Hare Krsna Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada,

All glories to Jayadvaita Swami.

I am happy I can write you an offering. I cannot even imagine that you will read an offering from me. Krsna is very merciful because He allowed me to be with you on many places during last year. Many devotees often do not have such a mercy, to see their spiritual master so often. I am very grateful to you for your time and energy, for your inspiring lectures and explosive kirtans.

Kirtans at Radhadesh Mellow had unbelievable shakti and I am not sure whether I had any qualification to deserve your association. Your level of surrender to this mission is great. Even though you have health problems now you still continue in service. It is said that no material conditions can stop a devotee, similarly like Srila Prabhupada, you are a proof of that. I pray for your health to Lord Nrsimhadev every day. You are very merciful to all living beings and I thank to Krsna that I became a victim of your mercy.

Your servant,

Bhakta Patrik

Bhakta Vatsal Dāsa

Hare Krsna Dear Gurudeva,

Please accept my humble obeisances at your lotus feet.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada,

Guru Maharaja you explained that the reason we love Krishna is because He is so human, but Supreme at the same time and we can have human like dealings with Him. I feel you are also divine, situated at the lotus feet of the Lord always tasting mellows of Krsna's Lila (as mentioned in Guruvastakam) yet so much available to us like a father and a friend. We can have relation with you as if you were one of us. I really treasure the time you gave me in Vrindavan and Mumbai.

We feel your love for Krsna through your deep lectures and kirtans that move our hearts. Also your compassionate dealings have won over my heart completely. On our first meeting you gave me highest spiritual experience of serving Giriraj Sila with elaborate bathing and decorating, without even considering my worth.

In your initiation talk you said that you do not ask for past but only say,

“From now on do not do sinful activities.”

No wonder you are famous for being most compassionate spiritual master who handles difficult cases and fallen people. I am grateful for being given the chance of being part of your family.

Like Krsna everything about you is sweet - your sense of humour, your dealings with junior devotees, equals like with His Holiness Sacinandana Swami Maharaja and senior Srila Prabhupada disciples. The way you serve Srila Prabhupada disciples with great respect on vyasa-puja day of your Guru Deva is extremely inspiring. I aspire to follow in your footsteps.

I heard in one lecture that 'svarūpa-lakṣaṇa' of a pure devotee is that he is 'saranagati'. I have witnessed this in you in Juhu Temple when you were explaining your health. You are also non envious because of your saranagati. You once said:

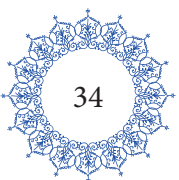
“The new generation is not taking over ISKCON, they are inheriting it.”

This is amazing quality! You know Caitanya Mahaprabhu is in charge of this movement so you are giving over with love. You said Srila Prabhupada won his disciples' hearts with his extraordinary dealings. They did not even know Krsna, they worshipped Him but their love is for Prabhupada. Guru Deva, although I am not worthy and have not made any sacrifices in your services to claim anything but without you I also do not know Krsna.

Please bless me that I live to serve and please you.

Your servant,

Bhakta Vatsal Dasa



Bhakti Latika Dasi

*nama om visnu-pádāya kṛṣṇa presthāya bhū-tale
śrimate kadamba kánana svámin iti námine*

*nama om visnu-pádāya kṛṣṇa-presthāya bhū-tale
guru dāsa jayadvaita svámin iti námine*

*nama om visnu-pádāya kṛṣṇa-presthāya bhū-tale
śrimate bhaktivedānta-svámin iti námine*

*namas te sárasvate deve gaura-vānī-pracárine
nirviśesa-śúnyavádi-páścátya-deśa-tárine*

Dear Guru Maharaja,

I offer my most respectful and humble dandavat pranams at the dust of your lotus feet.

All glories to Jagad-Guru, Srila Prabhupada,

All glories to Jayadvaita Swami,

All glories to your loving divine grace.

I wish you a very happy vyasa-puja and pray to Srimati Radharani for many happy returns of this auspicious day. On this day of your appearance I feel myself so fortunate to glorify you. I am immature to glorify you properly on your appearance day. Kindly accept this attempt as I am trying to praise your qualities and activities. Guru Maharaja, this past year has been full of realisations and new spiritual experiences by your blessings. Keeping you at the centre of my life, each day I can feel how your causeless mercy flows unconditionally in the upkeep of my devotional service. Although it's been two years since Lord Krishna mercifully sent you as my master and saviour, that first darshan of your divine grace is still afresh to my vision

Guru Maharaja you have made all arrangements not only for your disciples but for humanity at large through your many innovative ways of getting your association through your lectures, your kirtans etc. In every activity of yours you never fail to strengthen our commitment and conviction to Srila Prabhupada and his ISKCON. In a very exemplary way, you teach us the mood of becoming an eternal disciple by displaying your unconditional pure love for Srila Prabhupada. Please Guru Maharaja, instil in our hearts a drop of that mood of servitorship for your divine grace as you have for Srila Prabhupada.

I will always pray to Sri Sri Nrsimha Deva that he will protect you from all the miseries and will give you good health. I will also pray to Nrsimha Deva to give you healthy long life so you can deliver more and more fallen souls like me.

On your most sacred vyasa-puja day, I beg to pray for your desire to be my desire; I pray that your instructions may be my life and soul. Please give me the shade of your lotus feet so that I may eternally serve you.

Your servant,

Bhakti Latika Dasi

Bhaktin Lucka Žírošová

Dear Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

All glories to sankirtan mission of Lord Gauranga.

I am remembering my first darsan with you in Czech summer camp. I asked you if I can be candidate to be your disciple. And you said immediately yes. I am still keeping it in my mind. My egoistic trifle was really happy, because only spiritual master can get rid us from false ego and bring us closer to Krishna.

‘yasya prasada bhagavat-prasado
yasya prasadan na gatih kuto pi
dhyayan stuvams tasya yashas tri-sandhyam
vande guroh sri-caranaravindam,’

On this great occasion, I would like to ask you, please can you engage me in devotional seva? Help me to be useful in the mission of Lord Gauranga and also help me purify my false ego?

Thank you for everything you do for us.

Your eternal servant,

Bhaktin Lucka Žírošová

Bhaktin Rachel

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to Sri Gauranga and Sri Nityananda,

All glories to Srila Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada.

Dear Guru Maharaja, over the last year many things happened, many changes in my life, and you helped me understand things correctly and walked on right path. I am thankful. I remember you wrote me in first letter that I am on New Ekacakra is grace of Lord Nityananda. I prayed to Him for the right spiritual master for me and He in short time sent to me you, and your graceful kirtan. I am very thankful for this mercy.

Today is Nityananda Trayodasi and I pray for you. Lord Nityananda is very merciful. You said:

“This cooling effect of taking shelter of the lotus feet of Lord Nityananda is indeed exciting.”

Yes this, really is, I think it is causeless mercy. Dear Guru Maharaja. Please accept my apologies for my missing and weakness, and please accept my thanks for your big mercy. Somehow Gaura-Nitai employed me in service, and I try give to others this mercy too. To share it, like you do it with us. Because it elevates my heart, when I see your understanding and love for your disciples, and for others too. I think it is something what is not from this world. It really gives me important strength - strength to continue and try to be better. I realise that your care is perfect. Without it lot of things I have done would not be possible. So this ‘cooling effect’ gives me a faith.

I pray for you, and for ability to please you and to please Srila Prabhupada. And I am for ever grateful for what you are doing for us.

Your servant,

Bhaktin Rachel

Bhaktin Susanne

Hare Krishna dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada!

I had a dream. I really had this one and because I liked it, I want to share it with you. In this dream your vyasa-puja was celebrated. In this dream we were all in a huge building, like a castle. There were big rooms, small rooms, very nicely decorated rooms, dancefloors, stages, places to rest, and places for confidential talks.

You went, very relaxed, from one room to another to see what we have prepared for you. There was a lot of space for all of us to express our individuality. And we did this with a lot of joy to your pleasure. In this dream we served you all together very naturally. It seemed the time was eternal and everything went spontaneously without any schedule.

Everyone was very happy and excited having you here. The whole castle was filled with surprises. Excellent dramas, music performances, paintings and all was surrounded by an indescribable atmosphere. In between you enjoyed exchanges with your disciples. Sometimes in a more confidential environment and sometimes in a bigger group. But nothing was forced or in an artificial schedule. The atmosphere was very natural, smooth and dynamic. We all felt so warmly welcomed. The god brothers and sisters knew each other by heart. There were no fear of judgement. No envy. Only trust, appreciation and love for each other.

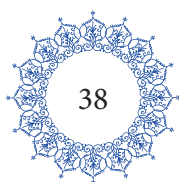
Then I woke up and I still had this miraculous castle in my mind. It was a world with no limitations. Being tiered or thinking of once one diet did not exist on this vyasa-puja. We all could eat the most delicious preparations without having to think of waking up early, next morning. And one of the most fascinating things for me was, that there was no limitation by time. There was endless time for our exchanges and activities.

This dream showed me how limited I am right now. The limitation of time and space, the limitations of my body, mind and my personal shortcomings are sometimes so frustrating. This limitations in my daily dealings let me feel unsatisfied with my service to you.

Seeing all my limits, I am very grateful, that you accept me as your disciple. That gives me the hope to overcome this limits step by step. And it gives me hope to serve you and Krishna some day without all this limitations. Thank you for giving me a bit of your time and that you welcoming me so warmly.

Your servant,

Bhaktin Susanne



Bharadvaja Dāsa

Dear Kadamba Kanana Swami,

I am bowing down respectfully at your lotus feet.

All glories to Jayadvaita Swami!

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada!

All glories to all vaisnavas devoted to God!

I would like to thank you for your infinite self-sacrifice, for your causeless mercy, which you bestowed upon me, and that you gave me the possibility to serve Kṛṣṇa and try to develop devotion and love to Kṛṣṇa. I will never be able to repay you this debt.

Thank you very much for all the care, which you are taking of us. At this time I wish you on the first place that your health is strengthened, so that you can continue in your preaching of Kṛṣṇa consciousness, for which all your disciples and sympathisers are longing so much.

Dear Guru Maharaja, I beg you please be merciful and lenient towards my shortcomings and lead my steps on the all auspicious path of the devotional service back home, back to Kṛṣṇa.

Once more and very much I wish you in the first place lot of health and limitless mercy.

Thank you for everything.

Your humble servant of your servant,

Bharadvaja Dasa

Brhat Mrdanga das

Dear Kadamaba Kanana Maharaja,

Srila Jiva Goswami states in his '*bhakti-sandarbha*' that Bhagavan also means '*bhajaniya-guna-visistha*,' that when we come into contact with that Bhagavan, we want to give up everything for the satisfaction of that Person. That Kṛṣṇa's qualities are so amazing, so impeccable, that one feels obliged to surrender everything to satisfy Him. It is also said in *Śrī Caitanya-caritāmṛta Madhya-līlā* 22.75,

'kṛṣṇa-bhakte kṛṣṇera guṇa sakali saścāre,'

That all the good qualities of Kṛṣṇa gradually develop in Kṛṣṇa's devotees. Besides that, you are the representative of Kṛṣṇa, so it doubles up. You are a pure devotee and a bona fide Guru. So it is not surprising for me to find that the more time I spend with you, either via *vapu* or *vani*, that I am feeling more and more impelled to sacrifice everything for your satisfaction. How I feel and what I want is becoming less important to me. It is a very mystical thing and it happens by itself. I am very selfish by nature, but simply by your divine qualities have you attracted me to you and without asking it, I now desire to serve you. Therefore, it must be that you have acquired some of that '*bhajaniya-guna-visistha*' from that Kṛṣṇa that you represent.

My prayer is that I may fully surrender myself at your lotus feet and that my only desire will be to serve and satisfy you and assist you in your eternal service to Radha and Kṛṣṇa. Besides this there is no meaning to me existing. My dear spiritual master, you are so kind and magnanimous that you give up everything for the benefit of others, so please kindly consider me to be a worthy recipient of your mercy, without which I have no chance against the forces of maya. No chance to remember who I am. I am trying very hard to remember, but I am unable and it is causing me pain.

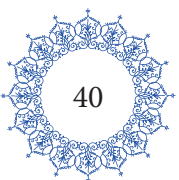
Please petition Lord Kṛṣṇa to give this dull fool the potency to wake up. You have purchased Him with your pure bhakti and He will surely listen to you. Please besiege Nityananda Candra to cool the fire of my material desires with His moon-like lotus feet, which can conquer many millions of moons. He is *adi-guru* and you are the embodiment of His mercy. Please request Gaurāṅga Bhavada, who confers ecstatic loving emotions, to give me *suddha-nama* and that I may constantly relish the chanting of the Lord's holy names. He is *nritya-gita-nama-priya*, He is fond of dancing, singing and chanting. He is also *premada*, the bestower of ecstatic loving devotion. Because He is *bhakta-vatsala* and you are very dear to Him, surely He will bestow this greatest gift upon me if I somehow please you.

I offer myself completely to you. Please do with me as you wish.

With love

Your servant,

Brhat Mrdanga das



Caitanya Lila

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances at your lotus feet.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

“Just a moment of association with the pure devotee of Lord Krishna can bring all perfection to one’s life”

I have realized in the last few years, that I have been so lucky and blessed in this life time, by having the opportunity to be connected to this amazing movement - the movement of Lord Caitanya, through the devotees of the Lord here in Melbourne, who facilitated everything for me to put me in contact with the mercy of the Lord, and a direct representative like you. I have the fortune to even take shelter at your lotus feet and try to be your disciple and assist you in this preaching mission.

The pure devotees of the Lord are perfect beings, in who we can see how expertly they deal in every situation engaging their words, actions, thoughts, energy without holding anything back, only for the service and pleasure of the Lord. They use whatever it takes to push conditioned soul like me back on the right track, helping us in achieving the goal of this human form of life, love for God and we can see this fully manifested on you wherever you go. I also keep thinking:

“When will be the day, when I would really appreciate what I have been given?”

I remember last year writing the offering from Colombia, as I went to see my family over there and when I came back, I firmly believe that my destiny was to go back to Colombia in the near future, I spoke to you no long after I came back from the trip and you were pretty supportive at that time with the whole idea and you dealt with the situation in a very expert way. You did not say no at all at once, I guess you could feel I had just awaken all my attachments there. But six months later you mentioned why you did not think it would be a good idea for me to go back and I really appreciated that you patiently waited to give me that instruction later on last year, as I probably would had broken in tears few months before.

Thank you for being so patient with me, as my nature and conditioning make me feel all the time that I can figure things out on my own and you are just there on the way giving instructions and praying along the way, that we can use the intelligence we have been giving only in choosing what will be more conducive for our spiritual life.

I pray to Lord Krishna that he allows you to regain your health and be able to keep shining on the rays of mercy and light that only Krishna consciousness can give. And in that way keep touching the hearts of conditioned souls like me all around the world, allowing us to awake from our sleeping stage and trying to arise from our material engagements to a higher cause.

Your aspiring servant,

Caitanya Lila

Candra Koti Devi Dasi

Hare Krishna Hare Krishna, Krishna Krishna Hare Hare,
Hare Rama Hare Rama, Rama Rama Hare Hare.

Per favore accetta i miei umili omaggi e glorie a Srila Prabhupada.

Mio caro Maestro,

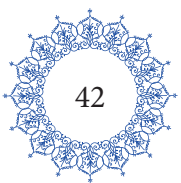
Con gioia e affetto vorrei innanzitutto augurarti tanta buona salute. E' da poco che sono tua discepola ma per me e come averti incontrato. Sono rimasta colpita dal tuo entusiasmo, come con grande semplicita' dai a tutti la possibilita' di avvicinarti. Tutti vengono colpiti quando canti il Santo Nome. Il tuo entusiasmo coinvolge tutti. i nostri cuori si riempiono di gioia invocando il Nome di Sri Krishna.

Mio Guru Maharaj grazie per avermi dato fiducia. Mi dispiace essere lontana fisicamente ma sono sintonizzata spiritualmente. Con il cuore colmo d'amore e gratitudine m'inchino ai tuoi piedi santi.

Ovunque tu vada io ci sono perche' so' che Tu ci porti con Te nel tuo cuore.
Ti saluto con affetto e che Sri Balaram ti dia tanta forza.

Hare Krishna

Tua servitrice,
Candra Koti Devi Dasi
(Napoli, Italy)



Candraskhara Dāsa

Dearest Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

All glories to Srila Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to you.

There is a popular phrase, 'You never miss the water until it's gone.' For me this phrase sprung to life during your recent health scare. Somehow or other I have fallen victim of forgetting a little of how important you are to me. There was once a time in my life where my greatest fear was losing you. There were times where I would panic just thinking the thought of losing you. Unfortunately other fears have slowly taken more "importance" in recent times.

Nevertheless, although extremely uncomfortable and difficult for you, your health scare has managed to redirect my lost focus. "Terrified" does not come even close in describing how I felt when reading your first letter on your health condition. There and then I had lost everything. I lost myself, I had lost my success, and I had lost my anchor. After all you are my rock, my guide, my mentor and my hero. Actually to be frank you are my spiritual life. I am remembering so much - how crucial you are to me, how I am supposed to be your instrument in helping you in your mission, how I am supposed to be helping you instead of being a hindrance to you.

I want to feel like your instrument again amidst life's challenges. I want to do something to make you proud. I am not your fired up book distributor, neither am I your learned scholar or preacher taking on new untouched horizons. I am not your phenomenal leader inspiring devotees in their spiritual practices, neither am I your ecstatic kirtan singer. I am just me, an average person who is trying to turn my life around to be in line with what you want, with the hope that this will make you proud.

Please pray for me that I will have unflinching faith that even though there will come a time when you are not physically present that still you will be watching over us. You are my direct link to Srila Prabhupada, to the spiritual world, to Kṛṣṇa. I am like a very stiff dough in your hands and despite my stubbornness I thank you for moulding me into what I am today.

I wish you a very happy vyasa-puja. Although Kṛṣṇa can do as He likes with His pure devotees I am praying that He allows us more time with you.

Your grateful disciple,

Candraskhara Dasa

Champakalata Devi Dasi

Hare Krishna Swami Kadamba Kanana,

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

Please accept my humble obeisances.

Thank you that you are always there for me. Thanks so much!

Your servant,

Champakalata Devi Dasi

Chitralekha Devi Dasi

Dear Maharaja,

Hare Krishna!

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada!

And all glories, all glories, all glories to you on this most significantly auspicious day which marks your Sri vyasa-puja!

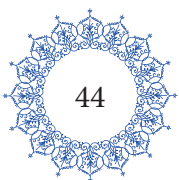
Purity and example are principal keywords which pivot the consciousness in relation to you Maharaja. It is by your exemplar pureness of chanting the Holy Name of Lord Sri Krishna the Supreme Personality of Godhead that we are effectively compelled to acknowledge that this indeed is our greatest pleasure of all. Unequivocally; a pure devotee as yourself is constantly transcendently positioned.

I pray for your continued well-being to relentlessly preach the grandeur of this Vedic philosophy which is the foundational pedestal of Srila Prabhupada's International Society for Krishna consciousness (ISKCON).

Haribol!

Your servant,

Chitralekha Devī Dāsī



Citraketu Dāsa

Dear Guru Maharaja!

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada!

Again a year has passed. In the material world, as time passes, people bitterly acknowledge that their last day is getting closer, and try to find something to help them forget it on this day. Really, this day is celebrating the arrival of a tragedy. Its date is as of yet unknown, and this is a generous arrangement of the Lord. There were times when I was confused about this duality – spiritual within material? I think it is also your mercy that it slowly getting clearer to me, because I have no worth.

Your appearance day is not such a material time, and this is glorious. All the circumstances of a spiritual person is also spiritual. One meter after another, while you are walking home. Yes, you are going home, and while at it, you do not mind some plus meters and all that plus time and energy, for us. You are destroying the obstacles before us in such a determined way, not sparing your body, ready even to lose parts of it in the process. And we would not even notice it, until you would ask us:

“Did someone see my arm? There was an orange-coloured watch on it.”

That is your true mood: to give and to give always, day and night. I cannot speak in the name of others – I just standing quietly in shame, unable to properly glorify you. You are my real father, who gave me instructions, who has crushed my mind into pieces, and who always extends his arms. I can remember your gestures, voice and touches, and this is very important for me. I feel that there is nothing else in my life that is real. You allowed me to accompany you on your way, and although I only crawl at the end of the queue, you always encourage me enthusiastically. It makes me sad that I do not appreciate you properly, but you know, before I met you, my role model was the donkey, the example of dumbness. My character did not yet change, only the destination.

It is said that by associating with a pure person, one also becomes pure – this is my only hope. I am in illusion, thinking that I was the one who chose you, while the reality is different – you were the one who offered his endless mercy. This mercy is the greatest gift one can ever get. What could I give to you in exchange? I often try to be grateful, and maybe one day I will be able to actually become – and this is a blissful situation. I wish that all the more living beings can experience your glorious existence, on this wonderful day and for all times. All glories to you!

Your worthless servant,

Citraketu Dasa

Citta Hari Dāsa

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to your holiness.

All glories to His Holiness Jayādvaita Swami.

All glories to His Divine Grace A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupāda.

Currently, the crisis in Germany and Europe is escalating extremely and civil disturbances increase. Leipzig is called the city of the Peaceful Revolution of 1989 but meanwhile in the streets of my childhood, there are violent riots which attract worldwide attention. The once so advanced German social system is falling apart and the sense of despair in people is increasing day by day, because they are faced with a new totalitarian system.

Suddenly, everything is happening very swiftly. Simultaneously, however, our sampradāya is growing and flourishing in Germany. The preaching of Śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu's message and our saṅkīrtan mission are visibly becoming stronger every day. In 2015, at least sixty thousand and two hundred books were distributed throughout Germany. For the year 2016, we are planning to distribute about eighty five thousand books. It is remarkable that your disciples play a substantial role in the German book distribution.

Last year, I quit my job to be able to engage even more in devotional service. Since the beginning of this year, I am trying to become qualified for the editing of books. It is still not clear if I will immerse myself into this service but I am preparing myself a bit. Germany currently has only one vaiṣṇava who is able to edit books and this is not enough. The German Śrīmad Bhāgavatam set, for instance, has not been updated since 1984, which means it also still contains some factual errors. We do not have any more sets in stock and we cannot wait until all the Cantos have been edited. Therefore, since the book distribution is increasing, we will reprint the set even though the version dates from 1984.

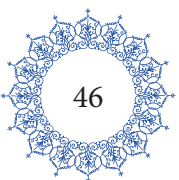
On the one hand, the world is coming to an end in the dark of material energy, and on the other hand, more and more people are touched by the beneficial rays of the saṅkīrtan movement. I am astonished from time to time that most of the vaiṣṇavas I am working with are your disciples - that are my god siblings. This fills my heart with joy and motivates me a lot to serve you in that way.

Please kindly forgive me my offences and continue granting me your causeless mercy. Without it, I am nothing and will never create or succeed in anything meaningful. I pray that your health improves. May you be able to continue with your service as you wish I will try my best to support you and send my best wishes to you Maharaja.

I remain, deeply grateful.

Your servant,

Citta Hari Dāsa



Dahani Devi Dasi

My dear Spiritual Master,

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you,

All glories to Jayadvaita Swami,

All glories to Srila Prabhupada!

ETERNAL ANCRE

How fortunate I am

to get blessings from you

who are so firmly attached to the Lord's lotus feet!

How stupid at the same time

for ignoring your mercy

and listening to my mind so my mistakes repeat!

Dear father, thank you

for melting my dark heart

and praying for me even when I don't deserve.

Dear master, thank you

for torching the path

and helping me get through every curve.

Your unworthy servant,

Dahani Devi Dasi

Our greatest luck is a divine fact

that whenever we turn to you,

Krishna is there!

To tell you the truth,

I don't really know who He is

but I can feel Him around you.

Everywhere!

Thank you for the prayers.

I don't deserve them.

But we know that without them I would be lost.

So please allow me, unqualified,

to stay as work in progress

this life near you - whatever the cost.

Bhakta Darpan

Dear Kadamba Kanana Swami,

Please accept my most humble obeisance,

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

All glories to Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to you on this most auspicious day of your vyasa-puja.

I feel very grateful thinking of your ecstatic kirtan and how you are connecting so many devotees all over the world with the Holy Name. Your singing penetrates my whole consciousness and awakens my desire to constantly chant the holy names of the Lord. I have recently understood the importance of surrender and being able to follow as a way of improving my kirtan.

Through your lectures you are helping me to understand more about Krishna and the importance of devotional service. I have come to realise that my association with you is through your instructions, lectures, kirtans and in person when time permits. I was also thinking that Jayadvaita Swami must be so happy seeing your selfless service.

Devotional service is transcendental and is the means to make real progress in Krishna consciousness.

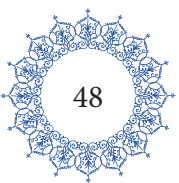
‘In the association of devotees, discussion of the pastimes and activities of the Supreme Personality of Godhead is very pleasing and satisfying to the ear and to the heart.’ (Srimad Bhagavatam, 3.25.25).

I try to take every opportunity to serve devotees with enthusiasm and to please them. My desire is to try to please you and always follow your instructions to the best of my ability.

Hare Krishna!

Your insignificant servant,

Bhakta Darpan



Dayana

Hare Krishna Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances at the dust of your lotus feet. All Glories to Srila Prabhupada! All Glories to Jayadvaita Swami! All Glories to Your Grace, Kadamba Kanana Swami!

Thank you endlessly dear Maharaja, for accepting me a fallen soul - as your disciple and allowing me a foolish rascal to chant your sweet pranam.

Please let me owe you infinitely.
Please let me be at your service infinitely.
Please let me take shelter at your lotus feet infinitely.

How can I ever repay you?

There is a story about a dog I met last year at the Frushka Goranga Summercamp in Serbia. Everyday this dog was lying at the front door of our appartement house. One could see immediately that he belonged to no one, as he also had no dog collar. He was always sad, with no joy in his eyes, no tail moving, nothing. His moves were slow and he seemed not to be interested in anything.

Me and my son sometimes offered him food or water, but he barely even looked at us into the eyes

One day, I was sitting in the temple room, listening to a lecture you gave dear Maharaja. Suddenly my eyes wandered outside the windows. And I could not believe but wonder, the very same dog was walking happily, with a moving tail and he looked joyful and beautiful! I asked myself, what happend to that dog?

Then I saw a man walking behind that dog and I realised that must be his owner! As they were walking and myself was wondering, behind that man came another dog into the picture, and this was the very same sad and slow dog who belonged to no one. Those dogs just looked so similar with the same size and same light brown colour that I mixed them up!

My dear Guru Maharaja, you made me being this happy dog, who belongs to someone!
Always feeling your divine presence as my owner, as being your eternal servant. I am no longer this unhappy dog, without hope and perspective, without a dog's collar.

Please let me engage myself in your service forever and ever. Who knows how many lifes I have been waiting for your encounter as my spiritual teacher, as my beloved Guru Maharaja! I am praying for your health dear Guru Maharaja. You are always on my mind!! We need you beloved Guru Maharaj!!

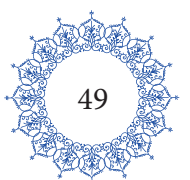
May Srimati Radharani pour millions of showers

unto your sweet lotus feet, most beloved Guru Maharaja!

All Glories unto you, especially on this auspicious day, your blissfull appereance day!

Your aspiring disciple,

Dayana
(from Vienna)



Doyal Govinda Dāsa

Hare Krishna Dear Maharaja,

Please accept my most humble obeisances. All glories to Srila Prabhupada. All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Maharaja.

I like to start with a prayer the brahmanas spoke for the protection of child Kṛṣṇa, after Tr̥ṇāvarta was killed. The brahmanas said:

“May Lord Damodara protect Your feet. May Lord Vistarashrava protect Your knees. May Lord Hari protect Your thighs. May the Supreme Personality of Godhead protect Your navel.

May the Lord of Radha protect Your hips. May the Lord who wears yellow garments protect Your abdomen. May the Lord whose navel is a lotus flower protect Your chest. May the Lord who lifted Govardhana Hill protect Your arms.

May the Lord of Mathura protect Your face. May the Lord of Dvaraka protect Your head. May the Lord who kills the demons protect Your back. May the Supreme Personality of Godhead give You all protection.” (Sri Garga Samhita Canto 1, chapter 14 text 54-56)

Especially in the last days my thoughts and prayers are with you, but still I feel I do not put enough effort in fulfilling your desires. Last year you were talking about the fact that all of your disciples shall be independently thoughtful, do something for the mission, something substantial with a plan.

Moreover you spoke out, but you did not instruct, that every householder shall go out with books some hours every day and some shall live by preaching. Looking at these instructions and desires by you, I simply understand that it is only by your empowerment that I can make any progress.

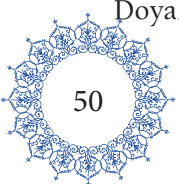
As Lord Nityananda’s appearance day just passed, I remember our visit to Cape Town in 2010. This will always be with me because that night I was empowered only by you. I am always too afraid making a step forward in the public and do something because I fear doing something wrong or that I am not able to make it happen. But this night the mind was conquered by your divine power. You were leading the kirtan and I was dancing like a madman to the maha-mantra which emanated from your lotus mouth. Not only myself was dancing I inspired the devotees around and it was going on like anything even as my feet were bleeding due to the wooden floor. Unforgettable!

During this stay it became obvious that you are one of Lord Nityananda’s close associates and He wants your association, but still the mission is not finished. My suitcase is packed and you said that you will pick me up. It is not only about me, I still need to uplift my wife and child, so please pick all of us up and lead us to a satisfied life in Kṛṣṇa consciousness. Not that I am waiting that you will do it all by yourself. No, you passed the ball and now I have to play the ball, but still the defence is quiet strong; we need you. Yes, the time as bird was during the beginning as you took sannyasa and even the fish is not so easy anymore but welcomed, but the merciful tortoise that meditates about her eggs and children this is necessary for all of us while you are here in this universe.

There are some plans and ideas for the future, but I am not able to break through my coverings, only with your blessings I can do it and I can radiate to my environment!

Your disciple and servant,

Doyal Govinda Dasa



Dwarkadisha Dāsa

Dear Kadamba Kanana Swami,

My beloved Spiritual Master, guide, friend and hero.

As much as I am ashamed for falling short in my endeavour to be serious in Krishna consciousness, I was so relieved (after being shocked and sad) that in the moment I read about your health issues it was the first time distributing books with my (soon to be officially married) wife. We did introduction and practice week in some nearby towns in East Germany and although we had ugly weather and she had a terrible teacher she distributed three books the first day and she wants to do more with me together. Everything is in the hands of Krishna and even more dependent on the mercy of the devotees.

Therefore, I want to tell you that you are truly the inspiration and the force behind the books we distribute, the hours we spent chanting, serving the devotees and trying to live up to the example you are setting. And if Bhakti Siddhanta Maharaja was so happy with every magazine distributed and Srila Prabhupada was so eager to see the book distribution results I am convinced that you are receiving the blessings every moment because you are responsible for our endeavour.

My wife is chanting sixteen rounds now for quite some months, we are serving in Leipzig together and she asked me about initiation because she is inspired by your heartfelt practice of bhakti. So we are coming to the vyasa-puja and I pray for your well-being because I am not ready to live without you and so eager to bring one more soul begging for your shelter.

Your eternal servant,

Dwarkadisha Dasa

Elisha

Dear Kadamba Kanana Maharaja,

All Glories to Srila Prabhupada.

All Glories to Srila Jayadvaita Swami.

All Glories to you (Kadamba Kanana Swami).

I offer my most humble obeisances to you, and bow down to your lotus feet.

Thank you very much for always coming to Leicester and taking the time out to spend with us. I always have a lovely time visiting you and listening to your amazing kirtans and lectures. I hope that you maintain a good health and have a lovely vyasa-puja celebration day.

I look forward to seeing you next time you come to Leicester. Sorry I could not make it to Radhadesh due to my situation for I know that you kindly understand. I will hope to come and see you another time.

Take care Maharaja,

Your servant

Elisha

Ganesh

Hare Krishna Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

There are so many thoughts running in my mind and heart to share with you but then I thought to make it simple. I was thinking to write my whole year from 2015 vyasa-puja to 2016 vyasa-puja as an offering to you. Though I have not done much to bring a big smile on your face but thought it would be nice. However, on second thought I thought I would let that be my internal mood and not write down the whole year but to put down a few of the most important reflections of the year.

One night I was going through this thought that I should be more humble because without being humble there is no scope of spiritual progress. And as I was going through those thoughts dwelling on my shortcomings and the first thing I read in the morning was your blog titled *"Humility and God"*. You were making a point that a person who is proud his ears are blocked, he cannot hear anything because he is overwhelmed by his own ideas. An envious person would always find a way to not to accept others. So humility is the quality where one is ready to see good qualities in others. Every time I think about humility I found myself short on it, but hopefully one day by your causeless mercy I may become humble and free from envy. Another time I was meditating in Srila Prabhupada's room about the Holy name and the reciprocation of it, and was asking: *"What does it mean? And why is it that I do not have the taste for the Holy Name?"*

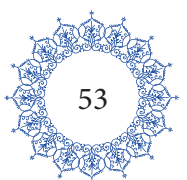
While thinking on this line, an instant answer came, that to the degree we perform your services sincerely to that degree the Holy name would reciprocate. Or in other words, your sincerity in service is proportional to the sincerity in chanting. You cannot serve Krishna directly, so you serve him through your spiritual master and all the services you perform such as deity worship, book distribution, cleaning the floor etc. you do all those services keeping your Spiritual Master in mind, that: *"I am cleaning the floor on the behalf of my Spiritual Master."* And when you sincerely realize that I am doing it on behalf of my guru and act on it then by the mercy of Spiritual Master you can chant the Holy Name sincerely. All other services apart from japa is done on behalf of Spiritual Master. Japa is your direct connection with Krishna, your personal time. However, Krishna or the Holy Name will not give you their personal time if you have not been sincere in serving your Spiritual Master; otherwise Harinam Prabhu would reciprocate in the same proportion as your sincerity to your Spiritual Master. I must confess Maharaja that I sometimes cut corners in service, I am lazy and ignorant but you are the ocean of causeless mercy who is ready to bestow your mercy on disciple like me.

It made me realize how you are looking after me as a father and that you are always with me. Just like when a small kid starts walking, his father is looking after him. He may not hold his hand just because he wants his kid to learn to walk, but at the same time he is there to see how the kid is walking to give him a support. Thank you for always being there as a kind spiritual father, overlooking my shortcomings and picking me up when I struggle.

When we met in June last year, I had so many issues with service and other things and you asked me to not bring you stress but smile because you want me to offer to your Spiritual Master. I promise today that I would try to bring a smile on your face always but if I fail to do so please forgive your unqualified son just like a compassionate father.

Your humble servant,

Ganesh



Gauravani Dasi

My dearest Guru Maharaja,

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.
All glories to Jayadvaita Swami.
And of course all glories, all glories to you.

How to begin, there is so many things what I would like to say but it will be too long and I do not like to waste your time. I was thinking to write a poem but I am not good at that, than I was wondering to sing a song for you but I am not a good singer. We went through so many situations, funny or heavy for those years, and you were always there, in my good and also in my bad days. Once you said:

“There is no good or bad solution it is just a solution. It just depends on us, how we are in Krishna consciousness.”

I missing my personal seva for you from this point my greatest years was in Radhadesh. We were the only disciples, there at that time and we could do everything for you and having your exhilarating association.

I saw you be so angry at me, not talking to me, screaming at me, but also smiling at me, laughing at me or with us. As one situation with Gurudasa Prabhu - with him was so many, I confess, but maybe you still remember, Gurudasa Prabhu and his ‘gorilla look.’ I saw you also as my always loving spiritual master and also as amazing pattern of perfect disciple in seva to his Spiritual Master.

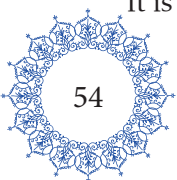
I remember my first travel to India in 2007, when we came to Vrindavan you did not have time for us, just meetings, running and meetings. Finally you found the time for disciple meeting :) then we travelled to Mayapur. At that time was vyasa-puja of your beloved Guru Maharaja, and you asked me to do the decoration in Sacidevi’s flat, and you said for me:

“You have to do it very simple, but for my Guru Maharaja you do the best and the most opulent decoration as you can.”

I was lucky because day before vyasa-puja was Srila Gaura Kisora Dasa Babaji disappearance day and there was an amazing flower decor in the Panca-tattva temple room and also I got maha garlands from Gauranga and Srivas and from Srila Prabhupada too. Then I realized I have so many flavours but I still needed some leaves and I went to the forest next to Gurukul, when one devotee saw me as I am walking in bushes, he started yelling at me that in the bushes are cobras, and to get out from there. I was running and then when I explained to him that I need some palm leaves for vyasa-puja celebration of His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami, he climbed on the tree and brought some, and by his mercy I could use them.

Then during the celebration everyone what reading offerings, and you ask me to say something too even thought I did not speak English, you said:

“It is okay, Parama could translate.”



Well, then I started (even I did not know to speak about without preparing) but the intelligence switched on in my head, which is actually just Maharaja's mercy (that we can have you as our spiritual master) than I said few words. And in the end I asked Maharaja to give blessing to you, because it will come to me anyway true parampara, and you said, "Well let us see." And Maharaja was smiling with his huge American smile and then stretched his legs, you gave him obeisances and he caressed you on the head, when I looked on your face, I was absolutely blissful and I knew that I will get it, because I saw you happy under shelter of lotus feet of your spiritual master. Then I realize that you are an amazing example how I should be, what I should do to be a good disciple for you.

You told me so many times that I am such a big rascal, and I am so sorry that I am and cannot be better but believe me, I am really trying from the bottom of my heart - to be a better disciple, a better devotee. I hope that one day you can be proud of me as your beloved spiritual master is proud of you. Thank you for being here with us and for us and for your love and patience with me, Parama and Dauji.

I am really grateful that Krishna sent Himself into my life. I am really grateful that Krishna sent you into my life. I am really grateful for all purification and all those steps, and all those tests, and all those tears, because I feel I am closer in my relationship with you. I am really grateful that Krishna send into my life my husband, otherwise there will be no Dauji and now I will be really honest, let us get this straight, he is the best of what we produce in our life. Thank you that you are so kind to him and so merciful. He loves you so much.

I hope that with your blessings and blessing from all vaisnavas he could be for me a son - as Kapila is for Devahuti.

Your eternal debtor,

Gauravani Dasi

Gita Govinda Devi Dasi

*Satam prasangan mama virya samvido
Bhavanti hrt-karna-rasayanah kathah
Taj-josanad asv apavarga vartmani
Sraddha ratir bhaktir anukramisyati*

Translation: “In the association of pure devotees, discussion of the pastimes and activities of the Supreme Personality of Godhead is very pleasing and satisfying to the ear and the heart. By cultivating such knowledge one gradually becomes advanced on the path of liberation, and thereafter he is freed and his attraction becomes fixed. Then real devotion and devotional service begin.” (Srimad Bhagavatam, 3.25.25)

Dearest Gurudeva,

Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to Srila Prabhupada. All glories to Jayadvaita Swami. All glories to you.

Yes, one definitely needs the association of pure devotees to make spiritual advancement. When they speak it is satisfying to the ears and the heart. Pure devotees never speak about mundane things and even if they apparently do, it is always connected to Krsna. They relate everything to Krsna.

During my stay in Mayapur from February til April this year I attended some lectures, where this aspect of pure devotion to the Lord had been strongly emphasized and my thoughts were naturally guided towards you. In this regard I recall a lecture of His Holiness Bhakti Vidyapurna Swami in which Maharaja stated,

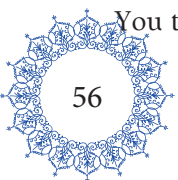
“Krsna looks at the intention: why did you choose what you choose. What is the connection with Krsna. It is not about rules and regulations, but it is about devotion. In the spiritual world it primarily starts with devotion. Secondary is the expression, the manifestation. All this is supporting to the primary aspect: devotion. These words reminded me of one of your quotes in which you made a comparison between the quite “ugly” vase made by a poor Prabhu (but with love) and the beautiful vase made by a Prabhu who owned a machine factory. Krsna accepted the vase of the poor Prabhu because of his devotion.”

Bhakti Vidyapurna Swami continued,

“For us in the material world primarily it is about rules and regulations and then secondary about recommendations. This is what they do, what they look like, what they eat, how they sit and so on. The reason why we choose what we choose is because it is recommended by seniors, by sanyasis. Because we do not have love!”

Again my thoughts took me on a journey, this time to the unforgettable Drakensberg retreat in South Africa in January this year. I recall your lecture where you explained the three categories of devotees: the kanistha-adhikari with attachment to material things, for who the world is not perfect but also has good things; one is not ready to put full faith in Krsna consciousness. Then there is the madhyama-adhikari, who puts all faith in Krishna consciousness, in the process of devotional service which gradually will fructify, and then there is the uttama-adhikari who focusses on Krsna, the relationship with Krsna and Krsna’s reality, Krsna’s world. You emphasized Krsna’s world, for what can our world offer to Krsna? Nothing, Krsna is not interested, He cannot enjoy our world.

You then, in an amazing way lead us to Krsna’s world, to Govardhana Hill (Drakensberg mountain), to



Vrindavan, to Uddhava, who – once arriving in Vrindavan - was astonished by the love of the gopis, of Nanda Maharaja, of Mother Yasodha, for Krsna. A love which is beyond our understanding. You lead us to Radharani's love for Krsna, which is beyond our capacity. You then continued with,
“When we go to Vrindavan, we remain outsiders. Even Uddhava, Krsna's best friend remained an outsider, so what to speak about us? What love do we have for Krsna?”

Bhakti Vidyapurna Swami concluded the same in his lecture, so I came to the stage of feeling hopeless. Then Drakensberg again captured my thoughts and your sweet words captivated my mind and reminded me of Srila Prabhupada's words,
“Don't worry, be happy, and chant.”

You stated:

“When it is beyond our understanding then we turn to Lord Caitanya Mahaprabhu, to His mission, to the Holy name, we take to sankirtan. And from that stage by glorifying Krsna's past times, name and fame, the other world, Krsna's world becomes more and more understandable. It is not that other world anymore.”

In the last session you gave an amazing elaboration of the internal and external path of Krishna consciousness, which because of the time factor I will not address further. One thing captured my mind, which I like to share. In one way I experienced you - however in a motivating way - kind of pushing everyone towards the sankirtan mission in terms of, to share and spread love for Krsna.

The mercy, the essence was not to hold back in self-absorption but to distribute. You became even kind of emotional. On the other hand there was this incredible humility displayed in your being. You thanked everyone who could help you to distribute Lord Caitanya's mission. I felt so overwhelmed for it reminded me of the humility of Srila Prabhupada.

Wednesday 21th of February, Kripamoya Prabhu gave a lecture in which he stated Srila Prabhupada to be sometimes, “double”. On the one hand pushing everyone to the sankirtan movement, and on the other hand he thanked everyone. Prabhu said:

“I felt so overwhelmed, I am so indebted to Srila Prabhupada and He is thanking me, us.”

Prabhu continued:

“Prabhupada said, thank you for helping me to push this movement further”.

Yes Gurudeva, to come to a conclusion: Yes, you are a pure devotee, the divine qualities of Srila Prabhupada which you display cannot escape the eye of even just the common men.

At this moment you are in Durban. On Monday 21th of February announcements were made in Mayapur temple in this regard. I never saw so many devotees (not necessarily your disciples) with tears. Sannyasis who shared their feelings in this regard with me, for instance Bhakti Caitanya Maharaja. Krsna Ksetra Maharaja, Bhakti Vaibha Maharaja as well as the twin head pujaris Jananivasa and Pankajangri Prabhu. Both of them every morning after Guru Puja are singing prayers for you in front of Lord Nrsimhadeva. So much love for you. Everyone is glorifying you, everyone is praying for you. So overwhelming! This is what you bring about! Yes Gurudev, a pure devotee will always be recognized by his qualities. What to do.

May Lord Giriraj as well as dearest Srila Prabhupada give ear to how much we, your disciples, the devotees all over the world, need you.

Still trying to be your servant,

Gita Govinda Devi Dasi

Godruma Dāsa

Hare Krishna Dear Guru Maharaja - dear Kadamba Kanana Swami!!

Please accept my humble obeisances unto your lotus feet.

All glories to you. All glories to Jayadvaita Swami. All glories to Srila Prabhupada!

The last year was an adventure. Somehow I did not know where I should go next, what would be a project Krishna wants me to be engaged with. I asked you in London and you told me we have to wait until it becomes clearer. This was interesting for me because it made it clear to me that I have to learn now something different. For sure being patient and you are not here to manage my life but to teach me in which attitude this should be performed.

You taught me to be patient and to take shelter in the association of the devotees. To travel and to be busy in serving them and to learn from them. You did this in a way acaryas are doing. You are showing your example! Whenever I see or hear you, you display this qualities of patiently serving the devotees and the whole disciplic succession.

You encourage the devotees in their spiritual life, you give them what they need to grow. In most of the cases this leads to the effect that this devotees are able to encourage others on their spiritual path – and so you preach all around the world! Manidhara Prabhu says that you are one of the most dynamic preachers in ISKCON. I am still meditating about this truth.

For me it is your ability to bring out the good sides of people. To see what they are good in and encourage them. You yourself show it in your manifold capabilities to serve Srila Prabhupada's mission and so we have a real prototype of how we could use our abilities. Although you were almost shot you are travelling in an unparalleled pace all around the globe to encourage the devotees. It is breath-taking, so inspiring!

Another point is, that although we might not understand of what use our current situation may be, it should always be clear to us that Krishna knows. You show me how to be happy with this information. Although I have not realized it, I see that you have! There is no doubt in your dealings. No doubt about the power of the Holy Name. No doubt about the glories of Sri Krishna and His associates. No doubt at all!

To see you being happy in chanting the Holy Name makes me happy and gives me the strength to go on!

To see you being determined makes me more determined!

To see you giving love to others makes me want to serve the devotees!

To see you doing what you are doing makes me happy!

To see you makes me happy!

Thank you for being my eternal Spiritual Master!

Please bless me with ongoing seva.

Your aspiring servant,
Godruma Dasa



Gopali Devi Dasi

My dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

All glories to Jayadvaita Swami.

In the Śrī Caitanya-caritāmṛta I very much like the story of Lakṣa-hira and Haridasa Thakura. It so nicely shows how when the Spiritual Master is bona fide and the disciple is ready to inquire into spiritual subject matters and serve his instructions faithfully the progress in devotional service goes fast. She did not come to him with devotional motive in her mind. But still he was so powerful that within three days he caused great change in her heart, and thus she was able to fulfill his instructions, to distribute her wealth to brahmanas, and dedicate herself to constant chanting and serving Tulasi plant. Lust is the most binding covering that causes our entanglement in the material world.

Although, Lakṣa-hira came to Haridasa Thakura with motives befitting her profession, he perfectly displayed the main duty of a Spiritual Master - change of disciple's character - appropriately judged her needs for spiritual advancement and thus she could fully absorb herself in devotional service to Krishna.

It is quite amazing to observe how you manage to deal with so many disciples although the spectrum of our natures and qualities is vast. By your expertise you manage to assess our natures and conditionings and by befitting instructions keep us engaged in devotional service. You are giving yourself away by offering your life to preaching and serving by constant travel, with the aim to ignite the spark of bhakti in non-devotees, to inspire those who lose their motivation, to instruct your disciples and others who are taking shelter in you. By spreading Krishna's glories you help to push the wave of mercy created by Lord Caitanya and thus you are an active part of His pastimes.

I am writing my offering at the time of your health crisis when nobody knows how the situation develops. I remember once you told me that you have a double lifeline on your palm, which means that you are like a cat with seven lives. I very much hope that they are not yet exhausted and that soon you overcome this life-threatening situation. Last year you also told me that I can pray to Lord Caitanya because He does miracles. So I am worshipping him with a prayer to heal you very soon.

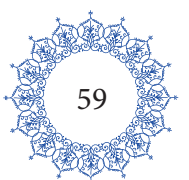
I also pray to Lord Caitanya to make the miracle of transforming myself by following prayer:

"I desire to offer all my actions, every beat of my heart, my every thought, my simplest works of each day to the lotus feet of my beloved spiritual master. Let my service to him and meditation upon him reach the peak of its intensity and be uninterrupted. I am aware of my disqualifications but I count on you, my dear Lord, because I know you yourself can become my purity. May all my material aspirations and desires flee away, just by your love and causeless mercy, please remove all the obstacles and make the will of my spiritual master my only desire. Make me worth of being his dear disciple. Please take away my freedom to displease my spiritual master and give me the gifts of obedience and surrender. Let my heart beat only for bringing him joy."

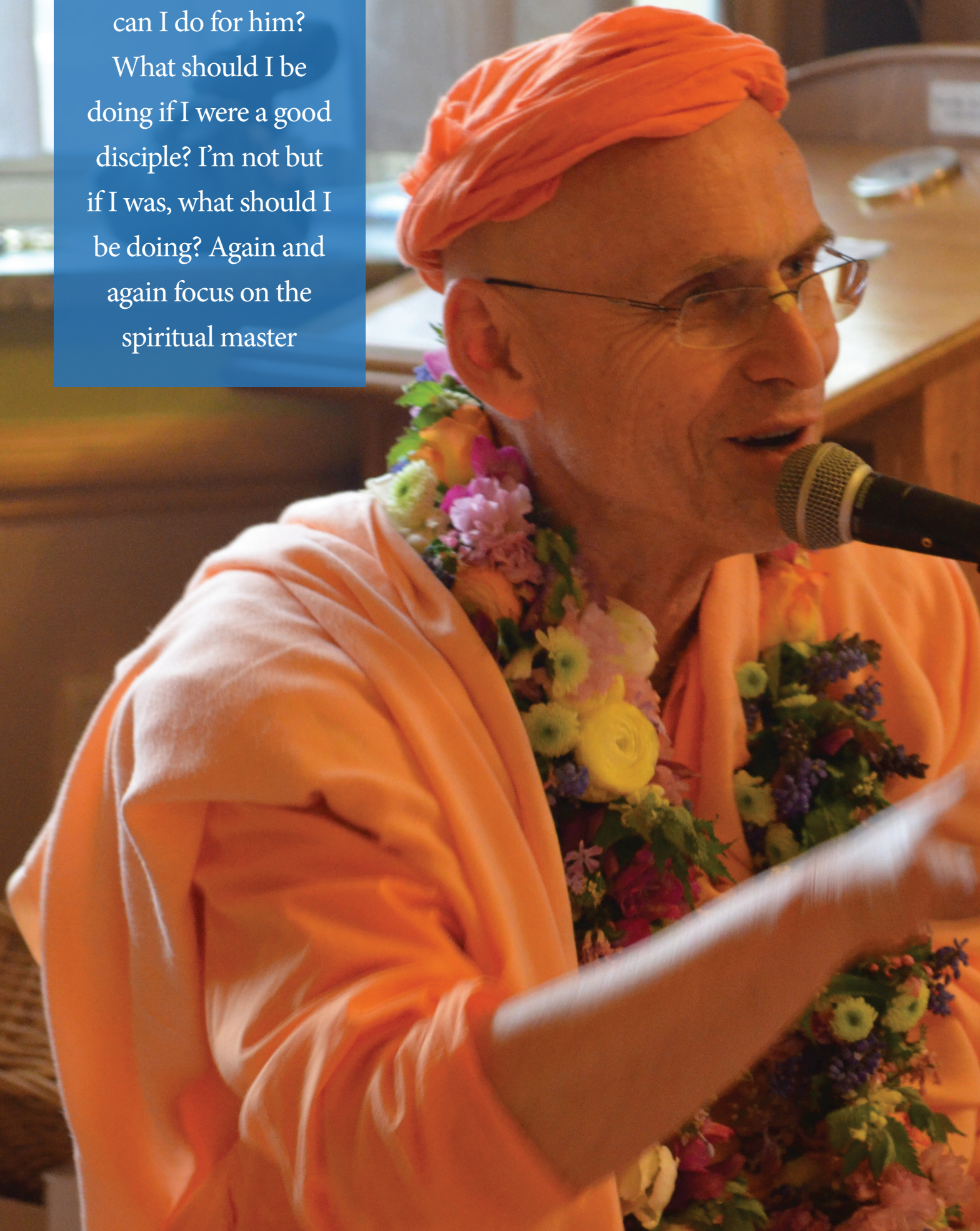
With love

Your servant,

Gopali Devi Dasi



What does he want
from me? Ok. What
can I do for him?
What should I be
doing if I were a good
disciple? I'm not but
if I was, what should I
be doing? Again and
again focus on the
spiritual master



Gour Mohan Dāsa

Dear Kadamba Kanana Swami,

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

All glories to Jayadvaita Swami.

The Spiritual Master is like a cloud of mercy showering the rain of nectar of devotional service for the good of the world. Torrents are raining and the world is inundated by the mercy of Caitanya Mahaprabhu you are sharing so freely with all the conditioned souls like us. *Kṛpā-bindu diyā*, I fervently pray that one drop of your mercy may fall on my head. What use is there of my life? Without you my life is lifeless. What use is there of a tool if the craftsmanship is not there?

Who can live without a heart? Please be merciful to give me your association though vapu and vani. We are still small children and need still to be polished so much. These days I come to realize how lonely this world would be without you. Please do not kill us your disciples. Our life is depended on you. I am such a sinful rat that how but through your association can I be purified?

Thank you for all the gifts of your time and forbearing you gave me. They gave shape to my life. I truly can claim that where I am now spiritually is because of you only. Please teach me to respect all living entities and thus chant the Holy names one day offensively that is my only desire, to learn one day not to offend anyone, you, Krishna and all living entities

Oh Gurudeva please shower a drop of mercy from deep within your heart to this pretender.

Clinging your divine lotus feet to my heart, this lowly worm bows down crying and asking for mercy

Your servant,

Gour Mohan Dasa

Govardhana Dāsa

*nama om visnu-pādāya kṛṣṇa presthāya bhū-tale
śrimate kadamba kānana svāmin iti nāmine*

*gaura-kṛpāmṛtam prāptovraje mājāpure'pi yaḥ
prabhupāda-priyo lokam pāyayaty anivāritam*

Hare Krishna Gurudeva,

Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to you on this most auspicious occasion. All glories to Jayadvaita Swami Maharaja. All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

Every day I understand more clearly just how dependent upon your mercy I am. In my every activity I can see how much I have to rely upon your instructions, making them one with my consciousness. Taking shelter of you in this way is surely the only way for me to make any advancement in this process of bhakti-yoga. If I can simply continue making an attempt at rendering some humble service to you, my life will be perfect.

I simply do not have the capacity to count my blessings. The mercy I have received from you is insurmountable; and to have the opportunity to surrender unto your lotus feet in this lifetime is unfathomable. My life would mean nothing without you, for I am simply a product of your causeless mercy. Every day I beg for your blessings, and that which I receive far exceeds that which I ask for. I am so fortunate to have you as my spiritual master. Please continue to show me your favour and make me your beloved servant, moulding my life into that of surrender. The instructions you have given me personally are so simple, yet so sublime. Your words constantly strengthen my faith in the Lord. For me, there is no other way to truly reach Krishna, but by following your instructions. I just hope that one day I am able to give up these propensities for sense gratification, and become a sincere servant that you may be pleased with.

I so much admire your dedication to Srila Prabhupada's mission. You are constantly travelling around the world, distributing the nectar of Lord Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu's mercy to everyone. And seeing your absorption in preaching is a great motivation for me to push more and more in my service of book distribution. The amount of time and energy you spend with your disciples alone is really quite unbelievable. Your selflessness is a quality that really stands out to me (along with your ability to add humour to any situation).

Although I cannot completely understand our relationship, I do trust that by your mercy, this knowledge will be revealed within my heart, in due course of time. I feel so fortunate to have spent so much time with you the last few occasions you visited Sydney. You inspire me to do the right thing in Krishna consciousness. I could slack off or drop out, like I have done for many other things in the past, but I have made promises to you at the time of initiation, which means more to me than anything else I have ever made a commitment to. Sometimes I may find myself being misguided by my mind, but to remember you grounds me again and thus, I am able further understand the importance of surrender. All glories to you Guru Maharaja. May your fame be spread all over the three worlds.

Your insignificant servant,
Govardhana Dasa



Govardhanesvari Devi Dasi

Dear Guru Kadamba Kanana Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to Srila Prabhupada! All glories to Jayadvaita Swami!

That is me - Govardhanesvari

I am the best as you like!

And all I make very right!

Only Krishna knows and says: 'Oh Nesvari'

Cynicism - I like very much these things

Most without stop and feelings

And Krishna cries 'Oh Nesvari!'

In crazy things you are a genie!

If I am so properly in rage definitely

What I have to do there with humility!

And Krishna smiles and thinks: 'Oh Nesvari!'

To make hard your way you are a genie!

Books study? Sorry no time. Okay read.

There are some things more that I need.

And Krishna looks patient and says, 'Oh Nesvari!'

In lazy things you are a genie.

But If I look on your face my Spiritual Master

I see very well my disaster

And say to myself, 'Oh Nesvari!'

Without unreason you or will Krishna never see.

Thank you for every help in thoughts, words, lectures, prayers and your great music.

Your servant,

Govardhanesvari Devi Dasi

GuruDāsa

Dearest glorious Guru Maharaja,

All glories to you. All glories to Srila Prabhupada. Please accept my heartfelt obeisances

Ten years ago I was blessed to meet you. We as a group all went to Wembley from Leicester. I was quite eccentric then and as we were outside the Wembley Hindu Temple I quickly placed my head at your feet while you were in conversation with someone. You immediately leapt up to move away from my head. (It was too late I got the dust from your lotus feet.)

Eight years ago I approached you that I wanted to be your disciple. Oh Gurudeva, Oh father you embraced me in your arms. For me that hug signified that I was and always will be your servant and son.

Six years ago I left home, left my job, left my friends and went travelling around the world with you. My life and direction was changed. My increasing debt sky rocketed, our relationship was confirmed and my small payments began.

Five years ago I was initiated by you. My karmi surname was 'Gajjar.' You joked and said because my surname was 'Gajjar' and I was overweight you would name me "Gajendra Dasa!" But somehow other you named me what I really wanted to be initiated as: Gurudasa. That name was my desire even though I never had told you and you, who are the pure representative of the Lord, gave me the name, Gurudasa. The Holy Name was given to me by your Holiness.

Four years ago I took saffron and when you saw me in the train station you looked at me pleased and my new identity was blessed. Three years ago I spent a month with you in Germany. You melted my stone like heart with your love and even arranged a birthday cake for me. What more can a shallow cake hungry disciple want.

Two years ago at the vyasa-puja festival, you gave me instructions, you said to me: "*You have to do something special, because you are especially attracted to Maya!*" I am excited that I have a blessing to do something special and I am pleased to know that you know me, my heart and my illusions inside out.

Last year I was fortunate to spend time with you in Mayapur and Vrindavan. You signed my Krsna Book and blessed me to always read the Krsna book and that it will transfer me to the spiritual world. That book is now my life. By your faith in me and fanning my puny flame of devotion you empower me to distribute Prabhupada's books, do harinam and help congregation members.

And now in 2016, ten years since meeting you I receive news of your serious bad health. It dawns on me: I've took everything for granted, I do peanuts in pleasing you and you may leave me anytime. Oh Gurudeva, oh Gurudeva! I am sorry for being a tenth class disciple. Identifying with my shallow mind I have offended you, disobeyed you and minimized you. Please kick my head, accept me as your disciple and bless me to follow your instructions whether you are on earth or in Vrindavan.

Let the effects of the dust particles of your lotus feet that have touched my head now fully manifest.

Thank you for everything again and again.

Eternally debted,

Gurudasa



Hamsa Avatar Dāsa

nama-shreshtham manum api shachi-putram atra svarupam
rupam tasyagrajam uru-purim mathurim goshtavatim

radha-kundam giri-varam aho radhika-madhavasham
prapto yasya prathita-kripaya shri-gurum tam nato 'smi

“I bow down to the beautiful lotus feet of my spiritual master, by whose causeless mercy I have obtained the supreme holy name, the divine mantra, the service of the son of Sacimata, the association of Srila Svarupa Damodara, Rupa Gosvami, and his older brother Sanatana Gosvami, the supreme abode of Mathura, the blissful abode of Vrindavana, the divine Radha Kunda and Govardhana Hill, and the desire within my heart for the loving service of Sri Radhika and Madhava in Vrindavana.”

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to your Divine Grace, All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami, All glories to the most merciful Srila Prabhupada.

This time I have got a great fortune to write down this offering in Sridham Mayapur. The town where so much mercy is flowing everywhere. Thus I want to thank you very much for your kind care.

Just a few months ago when you were at the Ratha-Yatra festival in Leipzig. I came there with my wife and a small daughter and we had not either anything for sleeping, nor enough prasadam and even almost no money. And you just said this to that person and that to this person and then to us that everything is prepared so we can stay overnight and that you will next day give me the sacred thread. Thus I realized your causeless mercy in all respects. And at the time of the initiation you said: “By the second initiation, the person become a true member of Acyuta Gotra, Sri Krishna’s family.”

Thank you very much dear Guru Maharaja. Now after a few months I am somehow here in the Holy Dham in the association of wonderful vaisnavas. I can see how the divine visions of the acaryas are becoming manifested and by the grace of local devotees I have been getting a chance to personally serve the Deities of the Panca-Tattva. You also told me that the place of an altar where the Deities are that same place is the spiritual world.

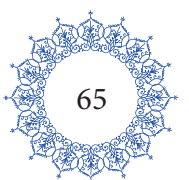
Thus I can again realize that everything is your causeless mercy and mercy of Srila Prabhupada, by which I can engaged in a service to the son of Sacimata to get an opportunity to somehow join His mission, to spread the divine knowledge and love to everyone in every condition. And mainly to be in amazing society of exalted devotees. All we can see, and you and acaryas state, that it is coming, the Golden Age.

Only by your mercy I can now complete this offering at the birth place of Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu with a seed of desire to serve the lotus feet of Him in my heart.

So I pray that I can stay in such a great Gotra and pray to always be at your lotus feet to be your better devotee and cook, and to, one day meet you and serve you at Vrindavan or another Holy Dham. Although it is obvious I would like to also consciously offer you all possible devotional service I did and do. Thank You.

Your insignificant servant,

Hamsa Avatar Dasa.



Harivilasa Dāsa

Dearest Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to Srila Jayadvaita Maharaja! All glories to Srila Prabhupada!

By your mercy, I had the opportunity to spend the last four months in Sridhama Mayapur. Arriving in Mayapur, I felt like a war refugee in need of some intensive care, having barely escaped the grueling battlefield of the Western world. Sriman Mahaprabhu has blessed me with a sublime experience so far and kept at bay any severe disturbances, allowing me to recuperate and again say, with slight confidence, that *“Yes, this life I am going to get serious.”*

The first couple of weeks in the Dhama was saturated with Prabhupada katha, as Srila Prabhupada’s disappearance day was coming up. I was also reading a variety of diaries about Srila Prabhupada by his disciples. Krishna consciousness is magical, but the birth and initial growth of Hare Krishna in the West, under the personal guidance of Srila Prabhupada, is spell bounding. While reading some of these recollections, I felt sad that I never had the opportunity to meet him and be part of the early days phenomenon (although I do not know if I could have survived in an ISKCON that required that much surrender).

However, on Srila Prabhupada’s disappearance day festival, when I saw Maharaja offering the final arati to Srila Prabhupada in His Samadhi, I realized that you are my link to that magic. Your attachment to Srila Prabhupada is so deep, and the sacrifices you made in His service so substantial, that serving you is non-different from serving Srila Prabhupada himself. Your achievements, like the Samadhi Mandir, and your life itself stands as a testament to your utmost dedication to Srila Prabhupada.

During a parikrama with the Bhakti Sastri students, we visited the Jagganath Mandir in Mayapur, under the care of Sankirtana Prabhu, who is a relative of Srila Prabhupada and also your good friend. When you glorified him as a “Prabhupada man through and through”, it was clear that you consider this the highest compliment. But it is equally clear to see Maharaja, that you are one too a Prabhupada man through and through.

How wonderful it was that Srila Prabhupada could convince people breaking away from all religion and tradition, to surrender unto a religious tradition even more morally conservative than the one they were running away from. He could do this by his divine ability to infuse meaning into the lives of his disciples. In a seminar that you gave in Mayapur, ‘Following the Path of the Sadhu,’ you spoke on the responsibility of each devotee to make Krishna consciousness meaningful. What a concept, that making devotional service meaningful is our own responsibility. Even in Srila Prabhupada’s time, only those who surrendered could experience the meaningfulness of Krishna consciousness. It will not fall from the sky! Krsna can never be pleased by a mechanical formula, and therefore we can neither! And that is why we need the spiritual master in our lives - to push us beyond our boundaries and comfort zone.

Maharaja, there is still a long road in front of me, but I pray that I can continue walking this path according to your directions, and be blessed by you pushing me forward when you see I am lazy. As you said, you are not sure what I will become, but I know that only by sticking close to you and your instructions, can I find the meaning that I am looking for. May you be with us for many years more.

Your disciple,
Harivilasa Dasa



Harsarani Devi Dasi

‘sarṁsāra-dāvānala-līḍha-loka-
trāṇāya kārūṇya-ghanāghanatvam
prāptasya kalyāṇa-guṇārṇavasya
vande guroḥ śrī-caraṇāravindam’

‘The spiritual master is receiving benediction from the ocean of mercy. Just as the cloud pours water on the forest fire to extinguish it, so the spiritual master extinguishes the blazing fire of material existence. I offer my respectful obeisance unto the lotus feet of my spiritual master.’ (Śrī Gurvaṣṭakam, Verse 1)

All Glories to Srila Prabhupada.
All Glories to Srila Jayadvaita Swami.
All Glories to you.

I offer my most humble obeisance to you, and bow down to your lotus feet endlessly. I take shelter at the dust of your lotus feet and place it on my head for added protection.

Hare Krsna Dear Gurudeva,

On this most auspicious day of your appearance, a display of words is not enough to show the immensity of deep appreciation and gratitude I have towards you. You rescued me amongst others in this ocean of material nescience, and made us your disciples. For which I am totally indebted to you.

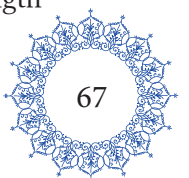
You do not need to answer my long emails or even visit the country I reside in since your prayers to Lord Hari about protecting us all is far more powerful than anything else. In fact I should be the one making an effort by visiting you, to see how you are, and I apologise for not being able to do so due to my circumstances. It means a lot to know that you pray for us, and see yourself as our ever well-wisher.

You have given us Krsna, in a form of initiation by saying, ‘Krsna I am now yours’- (where we offer ourselves to Lord Krsna – kinkaryam – ‘The Nectar of Devotion’, Chapter 11) which are the most powerful words I heard you say on my initiation. You are the one who helps us to connect to Lord Krsna. You have also given us Srila Prabhupada by narrating stories about him. You are always grabbing our attention and captivating us with your mind blowing kirtans and vivid lectures. It is hard not to smile whilst being in your presence and the level of purity emanating from you is overwhelming.

But due to our imperfections we are lacking in knowledge, unlike Suta Goswami who is of a high calibre and with great intelligence was able to address all the questions raised by the sages of Naimisaranya forest.

Even experiencing some bodily pain or aches (such as toothache) is intolerable for us, so what would we do if we were continuously tortured and put into great dangerous/heinous situations? Prahladha Maharaja had encountered these situations but managed to sail past all of those painful moments by chanting the Holy name and having faith in Lord Hari to come and rescue him, in fact he did not go through depression or feelings of suicidal during these ordeals and remained fixed on the reddish lotus eyes of the Lord. This just simply shows that our faith is not so strong because we are weak.

We cannot even meditate deeply on the form of the Lord or perform austerities for such a great length



of time, like Dhruva Maharaja did in the Kalindi of the Yamuna river, where by his deep meditation on the glaring effulgent body of the Lord, he was able to fast on leaves and then on air and so on for a very long period. Fasting on Ekadasi is as austere as it gets for most of us!

We do not possess any traits of being humble or gravity that is resembled in Jada Bharata's character who led people into believing that he was dumb when in actuality he was very knowledgeable.

Our lack of determination or enthusiasm of being serious in Krishna consciousness is opulently displayed by our low standards for inattentively chanting the minimum rounds of japa. If we were very eager to go back to Godhead, then chanting sixty four rounds of japa daily, would have been done as originally requested by Bhakti Siddhanta Saraswati Thakura, who, declared that, anyone who chants less than sixty four rounds of japa daily is fallen - (patita).

So what hope do we have dear Gurudeva? You have taken us under your wings and have taught us all how to behave kindly sincerely and faithfully with each other and with every living entities, moving and non-moving. (Bhagavad-Gita 18.23,26,33,37 &42) by requesting for us to be promoted to the sattva-guna (mode of goodness). As the spiritual master is very dear to Lord Kṛṣṇa (Bg 6.19, Bg 12.17-20). It is you who guides us so nicely into performing devotional service based from the teachings of Srila Prabhupada and other acaryas, and by following in the footsteps of the previous acaryas (Nectar of Instruction, Text 3), and by getting Lord Kṛṣṇa's mercy we gain a deeper understanding (Bg10.10-11) of the value/potency of devotional service and how it increases our understanding of the Supreme Lord (Bg 18.54).

Apart from taking shelter at your lotus feet, and taking guidance from you who advises us to be completely and utterly absorbed in devotional service whilst thinking of the lotus feet of Mukunda. By your loving grace you are helping us to take a step towards Lord Kṛṣṇa, where Lord Kṛṣṇa says:

‘man-manā bhava mad-bhakto mad-yājī māṁ namaskuru

māṁ evaiṣyasi yuktvaivam ātmānaṁ mat-parāyaṇaḥ’

“Engage your mind always in thinking of Me, become My devotee, offer obeisance, and worship Me. Being completely absorbed in Me, surely you will come to Me.” (Bhagavad-Gita 9.34).

As in the Sri Isopanisad there are prayers from chapter 15 to 18, where the pure devotee makes a humble request for the Lord to reveal himself behind the effulgence (brahma-jyotiḥ). But it is said that the spiritual master has already seen the absolute truth which is behind the glaring/dazzling effulgence. (Bg 4.34) Therefore, the spiritual master is very pivotal to one's life, since without his guidance our path back to godhead would be very difficult to attain.

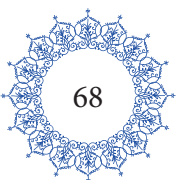
So although it may appear that we are not aiming to be the tiny atoms or particles that lay on the delicately fragrant, reddish soles of Lord Kṛṣṇa in the spiritual world, I beg that you remain with us and never leave us. We need you very much in our lives. You have given us so much that is why we are indebted to you. I do sincerely hope that I get the chance to serve you personally, as it has always been my continuing wish to serve you dear Gurudeva.

I humbly pray Lord Kṛṣṇa to look after you, your health, and your well-being so that you are able to continue to finish your work in this material world. May you always have ever increasing strength and stamina to soldier on into this so called life.

On this auspicious day may Lord Kṛṣṇa always shower you with endless blessings and spoil you with lots of mercy.

Your insignificant servant (spiritual daughter),

Harsarani Devi Dasi



Indrabhatta Dāsa & Gokula Taruni Devi Dasi

Our Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept our humble obeisances at your lotus feet.

All glories to His Divine Grace A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada.

All glories to your divine grace, Maharaja.

We shall always treasure memories of the Drakensberg Retreat from the 3 – 7 January 2016. We have gone on so many such excursions but this one was special. It just would not go away. It seems to be going on forever. There is still a hive of activity with devotees savouring the nectar of those memories.

Our own experiences show that even some of those who came for just the first time, got a generous dose of what they least expected – a down-to-earth, lively, enjoyable and spiritual experience in which they sang and danced for the pleasure of the Supreme Lord. And, you Maharaja, continued to enthrall them despite your bleeding finger!

At this time Maharaja, our thoughts and prayers are with you. We have no illusions about what lies ahead, Maharaja as we are in the USA now where someone very close to us is in a similar predicament. However, the Lord is aware of how many people, many of them still total strangers, are waiting to be touched by your loving concern for their spiritual welfare. May Lord Krishna spare you, Maharaja, to inspire, to lead, to guide and to take us all back home, back to Godhead.

Your humble servants,

Indrabhatta Dasa and Gokula Taruni Devi Dasi

Indumati Devi Dasi

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

All glories to you.

I want to thank you from all of my heart for taking care of us all even during the times when you did not feel well. But I am so unfortunate and rascal that I do not deserve it at all.

I take care only of my material comfort and I am missing all the mercy. I have almost no interest to serve the pure devotees and the devotees in general. Does such an unfortunate soul have any chance to do at least a tiny progress on the way to Krishna? What at the beginning seemed to be so near looks at this moment out of sight. And I can now only weep and beg so that at least a spark of desire to develop pure love to Krishna and get out of this material entanglement would awake in me.

Your unfortunate servant,

Indumati Devi Dasi

Ingrid

Hare Krishna, your Holiness Kadamba Kanana Swami,

Please accept my respectful obeisances!

I am bowing down with great attention at your lotus feet.

Jay, all glories to you!

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to write you on this important day of your vyasa-puja.

I want to thank you, dear Maharaja, for your unlimited kindness and for the precious attention which you gave to me. I am praying to Sri Krsna that I develop true appreciation for you and follow humbly your instructions, if you wish, so that in this way I can taste the pure devotional service that will provide me with love and devotion.

Your greatness is incredibly unique, because you have surrendered to Srila Prabhupada and Sri Radha Krishna and with the love you have for Them you are devotedly transmitting this nectar to us conditioned souls.

sakshad-dharitvena samasta-sastrair
uktas tatha bhavyata eva sadbhih
kintu prabhor yah priya eva tasya
vande guroh sri-caranaravindam

‘The spiritual master should be worshiped like the Supreme Lord, because he is the most confidential servant of the Lord.’ And you, dear Maharaja, are truly so special!’

May Sri Sri Radha Krsna by Their mercy always provide you with good health so that you can spread the Holy Names and satisfy the desire of our Lord Sri Gauranga!

All glories to Srila Prabhupada and Kadamba Kanana Swami!

Jay Sri Nitai Gauranga Premanande!

Your servant,

Ingrid

Jay Nitai Dāsa

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to Srila Prabhupada. All glories to Jayadvaita Swami. All glories to you Guru Maharaja.

You are providing shelter, not only to your disciples, but to so many devotees in the world. While writing this I am travelling in India, and wherever I meet devotees, I hear devotees listen to your bhajans or lectures played on mp3, devotees sing your melodies, devotees glorify your blog. And they ask if you are planning to visit that area they live? Or if there is a chance to invite you?

Devotees from all kind of backgrounds appreciate you and are grateful for your personality and service. Those who met you personally appreciate your humour, openness, transparency, purity of heart and that you are approachable for them. I see what a special person you are and I feel unqualified to glorify you since I am a miser and your greatness is far beyond my horizon. Still I will note down a few of the many things that impress me about you.

I like the way you practice and teach the process of sadhana-bhakti, sticking to the personal approach without giving up spiritual principles. While understanding the human side and individuality of persons and situations you never miss to point to our final goal and solution for all problems, Krishna and devotional service to his lotus feet.

I see you performing devotional service in joyful giving mood and you show by example how to overcome struggles in this way. You exemplify giving up own struggles by being generous to others. While being situated in happiness in Krishna consciousness you desire that others may experience that happiness. When I asked you once: “How can I please you?”

And you answered: “*By being happy in devotional service.*”

You made me understand that you are indeed my well-wisher. You showed me, that you are my Guru Maharaja out of causeless mercy, desiring the best for me, without gaining something for yourself.

I feel indebted to you because of that great mercy that you show. So let me follow your instruction and be happy in Krishna consciousness. Let me accept your generosity and become a transparent medium for that generosity by being generous to others. And let me be happy with the service I am allowed to do under your guidance in Srila Prabhupada’s mission.

Even though all my endeavours seem to be useless, the service I do so imperfect and small I keep on trying my best.

With gratitude

Your servant,

Jay Nitai Dasa



Jay Radhika Devi Dasi

Dearest Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my most respectful obeisances at your lotus feet.

All glories to Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

The year has passed very quickly so here I am again sitting and writing an offering to you. I know that my offerings are not anyhow wonderful, but I hope that still it will please you a little bit. During this time I always look back at the year that has passed, whether one has somehow moved forward in spiritual life or not. Whether we are active or passive in our spiritual life is best to be judged by other devotees and also by you. My vision is not so perfect. By the mercy of Guru and the devotees and by our own endeavour we progress, because without active spiritual practice we would not go forward in spiritual life. I am thankful to Krishna for being able to be a part of the study program Bhakti Vriksha, where we study the Bhagavad-Gita under guidance and we go deeper and deeper. I am also happy that I can contribute a little bit by making sweets for the Govinda's in Benesov. Prasadam ki jay.

In May during your sweet kirtan and with the help of Jay Gopinatha we were able to welcome a small vaisnava whom we named Abhimanyu. Little Abhimanyu is a great inspiration for me to go more and more deep in spiritual life. He teaches me to be more tolerant, patient, and selfless and be always kind to others. During the year I also had realizations from the removing of anarthas. When one realizes that he has anarthas and he wants to get rid of them consciously, than the tests Krsna sends are not so painful and they pass rapidly not to come back again. That is the proof we had passed the test. Sometimes we feel that Krishna wants to take from us something we do not want to give up. We feel we would lose something, but actually it is not like that. Instead we gain more than what we have "lost". We do not lose anything, we only gain and gain.

I am your endlessly minute servant. Thank you very much for your blessings and mercy.

Minutely serving soul,

Jay Radhika Devi Dasi

Jaya Gopinatha Devi Dasi

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my grateful obeisances by your lotus feet.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada and his mission!

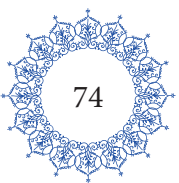
Every Spiritual Master has his own personal mood. You are not known as one who stays at one place or one who develops one particular centre. Rather, you are the one who floods the world with the mercy of Gauranga, freely, patiently, tirelessly, enthusiastically, compassionately you are giving. Everything you do is for this purpose, it is for us. Everything you say is for us. I am so much proud of being your servant.

Your selfless mood reflects in your sincere disciples. They do so much to assist you with this flooding, every day they add more and more water, they dedicate their whole life for this meditation and actions. They do what their wonderful spiritual master teach them by his personal example. You are our master eternally and that is something unbelievable. How such a space case like me can have such a big fortune? You know we love you deeply and whatever will come, you will always be our harbour of hope.

With hope for bright future,

Your proud servant,

Jaya Gopinatha Devi Dasi



Jayanti Devi Dasi

Dear Guru Maharaja!

Please accept my humble obeisances!

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

All glories to Jayadvaita Maharaja.

All glories to you.

Krishna was very kind to me when he sent me Srila Prabhupada and when he sent you to me and I am very grateful for that. I am still not the person of big and many words as you know, but I want to write you some words of appreciation and admiration.

Now it is almost one year ago that I got my initiation by your mercy, I did not get initiated because I am such a good devotee. You gave me initiation to become eager and to get more faith in Krishna consciousness. We are not perfect when we get initiation, we always have to learn and we have to work on our self. Initiation means that our spiritual life starts and that we should make progress.

What happened after my initiation? First of all, there was not a big change after the yajna but after some time I felt a deep engagement to you, Srila Prabhupada and to Krishna. I did not made so much progress in spiritual knowledge, but the love in my heart for you and for Govinda is growing and growing and this will give me more strength and the spiritual knowledge will also come. The relationship between Guru and disciple is real and eternal and is based on Krishna consciousness.

We are all eternal servants of the Supreme Personality of Godhead and by your love and service for Krishna you teach us how to become a sincerer Krishna conscious person. You gave your whole life to Lord Caitanya's movement. You give us all shelter and you give us hope and confidence.

You are the best inspiration for me. Please let me stay around your servants,

Your servant,

Jayanti Devi Dasi

Jhulan

Hare Krsna Kadamba Kanana Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada!

Congratulations on your vyasa-puja! Thanks to this special occasion, I got a chance to write my special gratitude for you.

First I want to say sorry that I suggested your rest on your last visit in New Govardhana. I heard shingles can give you so much pain and it made me in anxiety. Later I thought what I said was inappropriate. I understand now that you are a wise man and you know your body very well. I was so impressed that while you were suffering from taking on our karma, you were still giving yourself fully to us, going all the programs and lectures. You said it helps you forget about pain, but it must be from long time of sacrifice and practice of choosing Krsna. It made me think more seriously what I can give back to you.

I felt bad that I could not do anything for you. I was inspired from your lecture that you said Guru is pleased when his disciples become more Krishna conscious. So I decided to give Krsna to you. Every time I go out sankirtan, I prayed to Krsna that please give all the credit from this service to my Guru Maharaja. Soon some reciprocations came as I started this prayer. One day when I was on the street for book distribution I was struggling so much I almost gave up. Then I remembered this prayer. I am here on the street not for the score or enjoyment. I am here to be more Krishna conscious so that I can give back to my Guru Maharaja. All I have to do is just remember Krsna and Maharaja's mercy and continue my duty. Somehow that thought gave me energy and it increased more and more so I could continue. At the end I was in so much joy I almost flied.

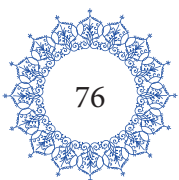
A few days after New Years' day I was in Brisbane temple for sankirtan trip. On Srimad Bhagavatam class they played your lecture instead of speaking. They said because you gave very nice lecture on that same verse. You were saying if we become strong swimmer by practicing devotional service, we can easily overcome the waves of mode of material nature. I was so happy to hear your voice and even the verse number was so special for me. It was 11.25.16 which means my birth day November 25 and this New Year 2016!

Maharaja, sometimes I felt anxious not getting external mercy from you. I was just being shy and making mistakes in your presence. But I realized every disciple has different relationship and reciprocation with Guru. For me your mercy came internally because I am introvert person.

Maharaja, thank you very much for being Krsna's instrument. I am still making mistakes but I am trying to be Krsna's instrument like you so that I can pay you back. My Krishna consciousness became real because of your presence. I am always praying for your good health.

Your servant,

Jhulan



Jnana-Samudra Dāsa

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada!

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami!

All glories to you, Maharaja!

Another year has gone by and I am sad to report that once again I have made very minimal spiritual progress – if any at all. In your vyasa-puja address to us last year, you asked of us some maturity and introspection. I have tried to reflect on the reasons for my lack of progress, but whatever I come up with are just lame excuses. I cannot even mention a single challenge of mine that would compare with the challenges that you have been confronted with throughout your life. Yet, with everything that you are going through, your Krishna consciousness seems undisturbed. In fact, it seems stronger than ever.

Through your adversity you are leading by example and teaching us how to approach our so called ‘challenges’. I admire your ability to analyse and draw inspiration from other great personalities in our parampara who have experienced similar challenges (His Holiness Bhakti Tirtha Swami and Srila Prabhupada in particular come to mind now). You never lose focus of your purpose in life and your actions unwaveringly support that purpose.

I beg for your forgiveness for my contributions to all the negative reactions you have, and probably are still to endure. I have no valid reasons for my lack of progress. I have no valid reasons to receive any of your kindness and compassion. I guess that is what mercy is all about. Somehow Krsna arranged for me to fall under your mercy cloud, and I have been showered ever since. It seems though that since I was so dry and dehydrated, I still need a lot more drenching. I sincerely pray that Krsna gives us many more years of your association since I for one evidently need lots more of it.

Your servant,

Jnana-Samudra Dasa

Kalavati Devi Dasi

Hare Krsna dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada!

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami!

All glories to you!

Sometimes I am asking myself, “Why me?” such a godless fool, why I am still among the devotees and why I am allowed to take to such a noble process of devotional service to Krishna, the Supreme Personality of Godhead. The level of my practicing and surrender is quite worrying and still there is something that keeps me from quitting this path. This “something” is mercy - your mercy, the mercy of my Spiritual Master.

Without guarantee and with ever present risk that the disciples will fall down, that they will not be able to follow your instructions, you take us under your wings and you give us the opportunity to try it. For myself, I have to say ashamed, I am not really a good disciple, but I do not like it anymore, it is not fulfilling. To fulfil my ideas for happiness all the time, to constantly think just about myself, to constantly avoid surrendering. Because that is what I have been doing - I dodge as a rabbit on flee.

Despite you giving us your causeless mercy I have been thinking now more how to really fulfil my relationship to you and this brings me to what you use to tell us - your instructions. I have to finally take the instructions seriously, not just agree with it, but follow it. It is not enough to agree, that is only the beginning, just the surface of what you are offering us with your instructions - eternity, eternity with Krishna. You have endless patience, your arms are always outstretched waiting for us to understand, to accept.

And is it not so that when accepting something, we should also give something in return? Well, it probably is appropriate for me to repay you for what you are doing for me, isn't it? I know it can be easy - surrender, surrender my life into your hands, follow your instructions and follow the process. I know I should do it, just please forgive me that I have been postponing it so much, that I still want to enjoy the material world. Although I am such a fool, your qualities and attributes are so attractive that even a fool gradually develops the desire to leave the life leading only to another life and starts to taste the nectar of devotional service.

Thank you for everything and much more.

Your servant,

Kalavati Devi Dasi



Kasturi Manjari Devi Dasi

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances at your feet.

All glories to Sri Guru parampara!

When you came to Czech in January, I was very much looking forward to seeing you again and the night before the Harinam Mandir program with you I had an interesting dream. I feel that the message of the dream is exactly what I want to say in my offering to you:

“The harinam will start soon, get ready everybody! “

We got ready and we ran forward, calling out Kadamba Kanana Maharaja ki jay! Many of us devotees ran down a beautiful meadow, full of enthusiasm. But gradually the path changed – there were big rocks we had to climb, then high water. Is this the right path we are walking? We were asking one another. Then our journey continued, we had to climb down a long rope hanging above a deep. Oh no, so dangerous!

And once we were down, it was no better! Wild wolfs and crazy monkeys were waiting for us, attacking us! In hope of escaping them we entered a nearby building. Strange people there were inquiring from us:

“We need to know your identity, who are you? Come to this big black screen and login with your Face book account.”

“But this is not my identity, let me be!” I objected.

Suddenly there was only me, the other companions were gone, and my body seemed to be male now. I did not want to be imprisoned in that strange building with strange people, so somehow I managed to walk through the black screen. Into darkness. Then I noticed some light, like a tunnel. Yes, it is a tunnel and what is this? The tunnel path is paved with pages of school notebooks and the arches of the tunnel are school books, hundreds and thousands of pages everywhere! I was walking for a very long time and then finally it was over and here I was at a big party with a long table with a lot of food and drinks and smiling people were sitting there, looking at me.

“Congratulations!”

One lady exclaimed and rushed to me with an American smile.

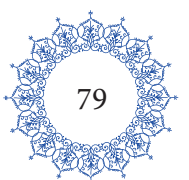
I said: *“Thank you. It is nice of you that you have all come and prepared this for me.”*

“Oh is it really nice?” Said the woman.

“But this is a horror feast!” She said.

“Horror feast? What? That is just too much now! Leave me alone! Let me be! I mean – I want to go to Guru Maharaja! I want to go for harinam and purify myself with the Holy Name!” I shouted.

“Are you sure?” The lady asked reluctantly.



“Yes I am! Let me go, let me go!”

The scene changed and I was at the street, seeing the harinam party getting ready to set out. You were standing in the middle as a mighty general. I rushed to you. I paid obeisances with tears in my eyes and so much gratitude! You looked at me as if saying:

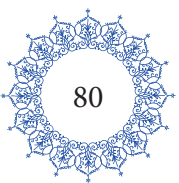
“So you understood?”

I thought deep in my heart: Yes Guru Maharaja, I hope I did! Guru Maharaja, you saved me! You saved me from the hell. From the hell of pain, hell of fear, hell of body, hell of false identity, hell of pride and hell of struggle!

You saved me. Thank you!

Your grateful servant,

Kasturi Manjari Devi Dasi



Kavitá Devi Dasi

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada!

This time, this very auspicious day of your vyasa-puja, I would like to thank you for everything you do for us, your disciples. For your prayers, for your preaching, for your advice to us. And with me especially for your infinite patience and tolerance.

Quite long time ago we met first time, about eight years ago. I went to Govinda as a guest for a program with a lecture, where you were present. First time I saw Maharaja, first time I heard kirtan and a lecture was very understandable for me. I remember what it was about to this day. I loved that kirtan, Mandali Bhadra Prabhu simply explained to me, how to repeat the maha-mantra and I was fascinated. At the end of program prasadam was served and I refused. You noticed it and addressed me all over the hall:

“Please! Take at least something. “

But I just overate from the other Govinda restaurant that you did not know. For all that I was so touched by your concern addressed especially to me, that through all the mass there during serving prasadam you noticed the situation and immediately tried to inspire me for taking prasadam, to rescue me. I took the prasadam that time of course.

And the time passes year by year, a lot of things happened, some nice, some not so nice, but all of them more or less in Krishna consciousness. In a better half of those years I decided to accept Guru. First it was you, then I thought over different one, than again to you. And now when I am reading it I am wondering – what am I to think about myself, that I am deciding this way. This is not humble at all. This is not a mind-set of qualified disciple.

But through all this you are so kind, merciful, full of comprehension and you trust me with no doubt, that you just accept me, when I asked. So merciful I do not know how to thank you for it. That you saved me from material existence. I will do my best to help you with your mission, to be a good and humble disciple, to fulfil your advice in ways to a perfection of one's life.

And as Kavitá Deví Dásí I wish to glorify all the time Krishna and you with gentle words. The verse in Srimad Bhagavatam, 2.3.13, where is the word 'kavim' used I am reading very often now and I am trying to focus on one of the twenty six characters of a pure devotee every day. Not so simple, but full of new realizations.

May your whole life will be always in association of pure devotees.

Thank you again for all!

Your servant,

Kavitá Devi Dasi

Kesava Bharati Dāsa

Hare Krishna Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

All glories to Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to you.

This year has been a very special year because I was very fortunate to receive brahman initiation from you which was just your causeless mercy onto me. Since the initiation there have been many challenges, but these challenges have been bringing me closer to the lotus feet of Srila Prabhupada which I value most.

In the beginning it felt like the task was impossible but I realized that when we become more serious in spiritual life that we actually start to see what this material world really is. Because it is not a place for gentlemen. I have just been appreciating the fact that you have given me shelter and in my heart I do not know how to show appreciation for this. I actually have been really positive because now I am actually seeing how this is changing my life, and how it is actually teaching me to deal with situations in the material world through scripture.

One thing that has really stuck in my heart is when you said in one of your classes that we should learn to give ourselves to Krishna, because Krishna does not need our money. I have taken this to my heart and I have been sincerely trying to follow this. I have been feeling a lot of separation from you these last few months because I have not gotten your association but I have been doing what you have asked of me to the best of my ability.

I pray that I can become worthy as your disciple and learn how to serve in Srila Prabhupada's movement with the amazing service attitude that you have. Please forgive for any offenses that I may have caused with my dealings with you.

Your insignificant servant,

Kesava Bharati Dasa



Bhaktin Klara

Dearest Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances at the dust of your lotus feet.

Last year was special again in some way. I still remember very well these sandwiches which we prepared for you when you were leaving from Czech Summer Camp and how you let me know then that you just wanted simple bread and cheese, not all these spreads. At that time I realised again that it is not so easy to serve you in a proper way that we have to learn how to really serve Guru and all vaisnavas – not according to our own ideas.

Then there are too many different circumstances and many things to do during each year – travelling, studying, and now also working on our restaurant and Kamala shop in Svetadvip, Czech blog and some other services. And for me, you are connecting element of all these activities. I am always trying to think what would please you? What are your desires and visions? What I could do more? And I pray that one day I will be able to really serve you in a proper way.

As you have said:

“Guru means heavy, because you cannot move him from his position, since he stays fixed at the Lotus Feet of Krishna.”

Your unending enthusiasm and determination is so inspiring, that when someone meets you, he immediately wants to do more for you and Krishna. Anywhere you go, you are spreading this enthusiasm for devotional service even if we do not want to serve. Your association is our only and most saving mercy.

When you kindly accepted me, you opened me this way to the most wonderful family I could ever wish and I am here to this day only because of your mercy and protection. Thank you so much for this, for your wonderful example of Krishna consciousness. Thank you for your patience - you are always here to give the strength and inspiration to others. Thank you that you are my ever well-wisher, my father and Spiritual Master. Please, kindly allow me to really start with devotional service and please you.

Seeking shelter at your lotus feet.

Your aspiring servant of Your servant,

Bhaktin Klara

Krishna Chaitanya Das Anu Das

Dear Kadamba Kanana Swami,

Obeisances unto Your holy feet,
Falling prostrated before them, because they
Fulfill all spiritual desires!
Ecstatic devotional service is
Residing there. From your lotus mouth emanate
Instructions how to serve Guru & Gauranga.
Nectar is their result and bring us home, back to
Godhead!

Your servant
Kṛṣṇa Caitanya dās anu dās

Just like Hanuman was a great, surrendered servant of Lord Ramacandra. Lord Ramacandra was a prince and Hanuman was a monkey; he could not be like Lord Ramacandra. But his glory was his service. By service we embrace the mood of the spiritual master, by serving that what is dear to the spiritual master.



Krishna Kirtan Dāsa

Dearest Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you!

The constant companion.

Increasingly you repeat the meditation of Srila Sanatana Goswami having the Srimad Bhagavatam as his constant companion. Increasingly I am impressed by your meditation on having Krishna as your constant companion. How wonderful is your companionship with Krishna - dedicated morning japa, Giriraj daily puja, mellow private bhajans, ecstatic public kirtans, absorption in Bhagavatam and selfless service to Prabhupada's mission.

I appreciate so much how you do not comment or prepare for class on the Bhagavatam, but allow the Bhagavatam to become alive in front of you. You show me how the Bhagavatam is a dynamic exciting journey into Krishna's glories and theology. Devotees are always excited to see how the Bhagavatam will manifest with you. You never fail to provide the practical lessons from the episodes which helps us to free ourselves from the material conditioning and gain more faith in devotional service.

Labour is Love.

Love comes at a cost. Even Nityananda requested a little faith for his causeless merciful gift of the holy name of prema. You have worked tirelessly for your spiritual master and Srila Prabhupada. You are like Brahmananda prabhu - loyal, dedicated, thoughtful and reliable. Heavy like him in purpose, not size!!!

With the recent episode of your health scare, you continue to show your love to us devotees through such sincere, inspiring and hope-giving reports. You laboured through all inconveniences to ensure we had strength to continue in our service. We all prayed for your strength and wellbeing. Now we pray to you for strength in our labour - serving your instructions. May Lord Caitanya Mahaprabhu's preaching mission reach more people.

Unveiling of the Lotus.

You mentioned how you wish not to go back to Godhead, out of anticipation of the glorious unveiling of Sri Caitanyadev's golden era. What compassionate broad mindedness! We similarly wish for many more years with you to see how your thoughts and absorptions will manifest in deeply nourishing books for the devotees to eternally stay connected with your lotus like absorption in Krishna.

Independently Think.

Sacinandana Swami appreciates your deep thoughtful nature, and so do we. In turn we must deeply think about all that you have said and sung - our purport is how your instructions will change and evolve us. Already I can see so much character transformation and service success in your sincere followers - I hold onto their dhotis hoping to catch the virus of your mercy.

Vrindavan is Home.

Vrindavan is described by some as a land of harmony. Where everyone works in harmony to the will



of Sri Krishna. Your life has had so many episodes and roller-coasters, yet you still survive in harmony with the unbreakable desire to be in service to Srila Prabhupada. He built a house the whole world could live in. I believe he has already built your house ready for you in Vrindavan.

I pray with gratitude and gravity that may you keep one corner in your house for my residence.

Your servant,

Krishna Kirtan Dasa

(United Kingdom)

Krishna Nama Dāsa

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

All glories to your lotus feet.

First of all, I want to thank you for all the enthusiasm and inspiration you are giving us with your divine association. Even though you are such an advanced devotee and a senior vaisnava, you are still so merciful towards anyone and everyone, in giving them your association and full attention. Your pure heart is giving every living entity the love and care we all look for in this material world. And your kirtans and singing are not from this mortal world. The sound of your bhajans comes from nowhere else but the most confidential mellows of the Supreme Lord giving joy to all the disturbed jivas in the age of kali.

Furthermore, I want to express my gratitude for your mercifulness in giving a chance to anyone to become a devotee of Lord Krishna. You even gave a chance to a highly degraded person as myself to become a devotee and for that I am indebted to you forever.

Dear Guru Maharaja, I pray for your recovery from your health issues, and I am waiting in anticipation to hear the nectar coming out from your lotus mouth, glorifying the Supreme Personality of Godhead. Furthermore, we all can be sure in one thing - that your great sacrifice for Lord Krishna, Srila Prabhupada and all the vaisnavas will never be forgotten. Krishna and the great vaisnavas will never forget all of your service, and I am sure that they will help you in either finishing your divine mission on this planet or you transferring to the Supreme abode Goloka Vrindavan.

Thank you for being who you are and for giving us the shelter of your lotus feet. We all love you and pray for your recovery.

Your servant,

Krishna Nama Dasa

Madhu Pandit Dāsa

Hare Krishna my dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisance at your lotus feet.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

All glories to Jayadvaita Maharaja.

All glories to your holiness.

In the Bhagavad-gita (4.34) Krishna says:

tad viddhi pranipatena
pariprashnena sevaya
upadekshyanti te jnanam
jnaninas tattva-darshinah

‘Just try to learn the truth by approaching a spiritual master. Inquire from him submissively and render service unto him. The self-realized souls can impart knowledge unto you because they have seen the truth.’

I cannot do anything but humbly try to express my great gratitude to you. You are indeed the true empowered spiritual master who is lighting the way back to Godhead for all his followers and disciples. You are like the torch in the dark, dangerous world of maya. You are showing to all how to apply the transcendental knowledge in their respective daily practice, how to live in Krishna consciousness and how to live steadily in Vrindavan. Your constant endeavour in preaching the absolute truth is really enormous.

Thus, you are such a big inspiration for so many seeking souls. Personally I am addicted to your guidance, which you are kindly giving me by your recorded lectures. Through them you are kindly answering my questions, and giving me advices how to apply the spiritual instructions in daily life. Although, I am just useless, offensive rascal, by your instructions I am trying at least to get to your shadow by trying to walking in your footsteps, in the very small way I can.

My dear Guru Maharaja, thank you for you kind guidance on the spiritual path. I can never pay it back to you and even cannot appreciate it fully. So I at least thank you very much.

Your incapable disciple,

Madhu Pandit Dasa

Madhukantha Dāsa

All glories to Srila Prabhupada!

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami! All glories to dear Guru Maharaja!

Dear Guru Maharaja, your message of pure loving devotional service to Krishna which you are trying to remind us of at every lecture, and in any moment when we can be in your personal company is very clear, simple and deeply realized. Often at times you conclude your philosophical explanation of a certain topic by the words Krishna, Krishna, and that is what it is really all about.

There is nothing more important than to surrender to Krishna in loving devotional service under the guidance of a genuine spiritual master. From your lips it sounds as nectar and very convincing that at the moment I have no doubt and everything is clear in the same way as at the beginning of a day when the sun dissipates the darkness of the night and we can see everything in bright light. My determination to forget about my material desires that bind me as a rope is strengthened by your association, and for a while I desire to absorb myself fully into the process of bhakti yoga.

Unfortunately I am as a small child who longs for a toy in one moment and throws it away the next moment and claims another toy. But when someone else obstructs him from doing what he is doing he starts to weep and be angry. This process is repeated again and again and the silly child does not understand that in this way happiness can never be achieved.

You remind us often that our situation is similar to that of this child. The adults' toys seem to be much more important than the toys of a small child, but the principle of attachment to material things is the same whether it is about a small car toy or a 'big real car'. The result of attachment to matter is experiencing of alternating happiness and distress that are only different manifestations of material consciousness.

Krishna reproved Arjuna:

“While speaking learned words, you are mourning for what is not worthy of grief.”

And in the same way I may think:

“Well I understand how things work sometimes in a different way than what I would like, but I have knowledge, I am above it.”

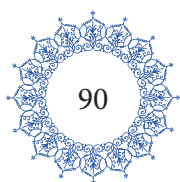
But the reality is that I lament for something I would like to enjoy but I cannot and I mourn for what I have been losing by the influence of all-powerful time. In this way, entangled by illusion, I waste my precious time with the things of the temporary world. In fact I am a regrettable desperate man and at the same time I am also very fortunate. I do not know how I deserve that I can have association of such a wonderful person like you, dear Guru Maharaja. It probably is the causeless mercy of Sri Caitanya Mahāprabhu and your causeless mercy that I can be your disciple.

Thank you for your endless mercy and patience with which you constantly guide us on the path to real happiness.

Thank you for everything and I will try to rectify myself.

Your humble servant,

Madhukantha Dasa



Mahajana Dāsa

Dear Guru Maharaja,

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

All glories to Jayadvaita Swami. All glories unto you.

I do not know exactly what to say, but I know just one thing I want to say to you. I want to say thank you. Thank you for accepting me like I am, because there may be people more lazy, more ignorant, more self-centred, like me but I have a very big portion from all of it and you simply accept me and keep me in your family the whole time.

I want to thank you for being always an inspiration, and an exemplary example for what it means to be a devotee. One could say a devotee is clean, merciful, always humble, stern, sober and so on but from you I know what a devotee really is even if he is not a picture book devotee.

I mean you are a perfect devotee, you even shower three times a day and you wear tilak when you are going to bed. You are perfectly showing what it means to be a devotee on the outside. But you also show me what it means to be a devotee in the inside. You show me that a devotee is always happy, even if he is not smiling and even if he is looking very sincere, he is still very happy internally.

Krishna says it in the Bhagavad-gita 9.2 that bhakti yoga is practiced with joy and Srila Prabhupada once said that if one is morose, this is a lack of Krishna consciousness.

And how could it be in another way, because if we really think about Krishna, His lila or about His Holy Name and if we do service for Him in a conscious and not automatic way, then we will feel transcendental bliss which is always increasing and which enables us to do more service in an ecstatic mood so that every obstacle will be no problem on our way to please Krishna.

I see this spiritual bliss all the time when I see a picture from you or when I am blessed by your personal association. And that is the reason why you are in this movement, and in this position all the years. You are practicing bhakti yoga with joy and pleasure in your heart. And that is why you always are taking any hurdle on your way. You always say that you want to slow down a little more. But you only slow down, when your body is really not able to do any step further otherwise if there is a kirtan waiting for you, or some service is to be done, you jump into it and you simply give 200%.

I really do not want to offend you Maharaja and I really hope you will forgive me that offence, but I think you are a little bit crazy. You are crazy for Krishna and I beg you to give me a little bit of this craziness. I collected a piece from almost any craziness available on this earth and therefore I am crazy anyway but this one I do not have in my collection, so please help me to become a crazy man like you are.

I am sorry for my harsh words and I hope you will not kick me out of your family now but in the end all I wanted to say to you was simply,

Thank you Maharaja and thank you for everything.

Your morose servant,

Mahajana Dasa

Maithili Devi Dasi

My Dearest Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my obeisances.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

All glories to you.

On this great occasion of your vyasa-puja, we are given the opportunity to glorify you, but as little particles of dust, how can I even begin to understand your greatness. You have such affection and love, attracting varieties of persons who were looking for Krishna and who did not even know who Krishna was, only by your purity we are trying to achieve our ultimate goal of life.

Thank you for the very rare yet amazing opportunity of practicing Krishna consciousness. Thank you for bringing Krishna to our door step. As we recently heard of your illness, I felt like the whole world came to an end and I was crumbled in it. My heart melted, on hearing this devastating news, tears filled my eyes and dropped like falling rain drops. I could of never even dreamt of such an illness would come onto you. But what can we do? This is reality. Maharaja but hours ago as the 24 hour kirtan, which was happening on your behalf came to a halt, I looked at Lord Krishna with my teary eyes begging Him to save you, and hours later we got the good news about your recovery, Krishna protects His devotee, how can He not?

This built my faith even stronger in Krishna. As our hearts cry out to Krishna:

“Oh Krishna please protect our Guru Maharaja, give him a prolonged life take away his aches and pains and give him the opportunity to bring more fallen souls to you.”

He would always listen to His devotees crying out. You are so merciful to your disciples.

When we are out of the country visiting other places, you are always looking upon us, our well beings making sure we are safe, how was our flight, about our accommodation and with whom we are staying etc. Just as a father who is always concerned about his children. I remember in the year 2013 in Radhadesh, when we were leaving, you practically loaded the taxi yourself, and you even asked us not to help you with it, ‘Oh my god I wanted to shoot myself!’, how could we accept to be served by you, so much of compassion and courtesy comes out of your soft, tender heart.

May you always be an inspiration to us all, and be the boat that will continue to save us as we struggle in the ocean of material life.

Happy vyasa-puja.

Your servant,

Maithili Devi Dasi



Malini Devi Dasi

My Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances unto your lotus feet. All glories to Srila Prabhupada!

All glories to Jayadvaita Swami! All glories to you!

On this special occasion of your vyasa-puja, I want to express my gratitude towards you. I do not know if I can put all my feelings into words, but I will try. For the first time I share my offering in this wonderful vyasa-puja book. It is not due to less ego, because there is too much ego, but I want to try to satisfy you. I once heard that is actually the duty of a disciple to write an offering in the vyasa-puja book, so I feel very ashamed that I did not do it before.

I was thinking about what to write, there were a lot of things coming to my mind. I decided to share with you some special moments for which I feel such deep gratitude. I feel such deep gratitude for everything you gave me through the years. But especially those times in the holy land of Vrindavan and Mayapura. I always had this desire in my heart to be able to serve you. I know that a disciple is also serving the Spiritual Master with chanting and hearing, but I wanted to serve you directly.

But I witnessed that only men would be able to do so. So okay, what to do? But when I came to Vrindavan and Mayapura for a few months, I got the opportunity to serve you, by the mercy of my wonderful god siblings. I am feeling so grateful that every day I was allowed to do your laundry! I never expected such feelings of gratitude from doing laundry. But it was not due to the laundry, it was because I was allowed to serve you! There were days when I did not know how I should do it, but Krsna always reminded me of the desire I had, and I felt so happy again. I deeply thank you from the bottom of my heart that you allowed me to serve you in that way; I hope it will happen again, again and again.

There is one more story I want to share. This story also gave me such deep feelings of gratitude and love towards you and Krsna. It was in Vrindavan, on the day of Govardhana Puja. In the morning I went with friends for Govardhana Parikrama and later that day Jananivasa Prabhu invited me to your room to help him build up a mountain of sweets for Giriraja and for the celebration you do every year with some disciples and guests. So I went with him, not really believing I would have the great opportunity to serve your Giriraja. And there I was, sitting in your room and decorating that wonderful ladhu Govardhana Hill, it was unbelievable, I felt so endlessly happy.

When I went home that night, the shoe stall in Krsna Balarama Mandir was already closed, but my shoes were inside, so I had to walk home without shoes after Govardhana Parikrama. It is not so easy usually but this time I felt I could even fly, there was no pain at all. I was in such an ecstatic mood, I felt endlessly happy and touched deep in my heart. This whole day was filled with incredible service to the Lord and to you, so what could be better than that.

Dearest Guru Maharaja, I thank you from the bottom of my heart for accepting me as your disciple, for giving me a wonderful spiritual family, for guiding me in my spiritual life, for always inspiring me and for understanding me. I really pray that I will be able to satisfy you. I want to become a worthy disciple, but I know there is a lot of work to do, but I will work on it. I always want to remain grateful at Srila Prabhupada's and your lotus feet. Thank you for totally changing my life!

Your eternal servant,

Malini Devi Dasi

Manikundala Devi Dasi

Hare Krishna Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances.

I realized that in your association all my problems and worries decrease and they do not have any meaning. Most of my spiritual siblings aspire for your darshan to reveal their problems and you give them advice, your opinion and blessings. I have the opposite approach. I do not want to burden you with my problems, everyone does it and then you have to hear it all. Mostly it is just the same problems in different shades of light or dark. And also I think that my problems are insignificant comparing the problems of others. As Bhakti Vikasa Swami says:

“Your problems are such but they can be also like this and that”.

I am very glad when I can have your association through the lectures, kirtans and sometimes some direct service for you. When I have some money by me which I can give you, then I wait for you somewhere and I give it to you personally. Then you ask me if everything is alright? And I say, “Yes,” because in your association all my problems are gone.

Once at the Simhachalam temple in Germany you gave me the stimulation that I should learn English. So many years I have the teach yourself book at home and I never went further than to second or third lesson. Now I looked closer to the English grammar and I realized that there are no rules in pronunciation and spelling and therefore it will be very hard for me. At least I started to study the words and their pronunciation but I do not know if I could learn to read and write. I will be happy if I will understand a little and speak a little. The lila of Spiritual Master is so big that even the lame man can cross mountains and a blind man can see. So may with your blessing the impossible becomes possible.

Your servant,

Manikundala Devi Dasi

Manjulali Deví Dásí

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my respectful obeisances unto your lotus feet!

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Maharaja.

All glories to your divine grace!

Recently I have been reflecting, that chanting of the Holy Name is really the deepest expression of love. There is no real love in the material world. And there is not more sincere expression of love as done via Holy Name. Krishna is personally present in His name and is ready to interact with us instantly. To be able to chant the Holy Name we need the mercy of a spiritual master. By his causeless mercy we can taste the nectar of chanting Hare Krishna.

When I encounter some demanding situation in the service, I begin to pray for your mercy and chant the maha-mantra. Suddenly by your's and Krishna's mercy miracles start to become reality. Due to this I am aware that whatever positive I achieve is done because of your blessings. Without you I would surely be situated in the deepest well of material existence. On the contrary thanks to your empowerment, I can be engaged in otherwise hardly achievable process of devotional service.

Especially after your last visit in Czech I felt, that you gave me to this moment everything I require for my return back to Godhead. You initiated me, gave many amazing classes, gave me so much personal care and answered all questions I had.

Also thanks to you, I know that even when one is not situated in materially ideal position, it is not handicap on spiritual level. Because Krishna, Holy Name and devotional service are always transcendental and that is very encouraging. You prove this truth personally in your life and your devotion leaves impressions in the heart of anyone who encounters you.

Thank you very much out of my whole heart! Indeed by your mercy, I feel very good and obliged for everything. I feel inspired to do for you maximum in my endeavours to fulfil your instructions and wishes according my best capacity.

I pray to Krishna for your health, so that you can stay with us long time. News about your health caused me pain in the heart. I became more aware how important you are for me and how painful it would be when Krishna would take you to Him. I am very sorry, that you have to feel such pains, because we want for you always only the best.

Dear Guru Maharaja, I love you very much! Thank you for incessant stream of inspiration and encouragement, which you provide us and also thanks for your kind care and patience.

Your servant,

Manjulali Deví Dásí

Manu Dāsa and family

Dear Kadamba Kanana Swami,

You are my greatest inspiration in this Krishna conscious movement. There are times when I feel lonely and gloomy and all things seem to go wrong and just then I remember you and your tremendous endeavour to spread Hare Krishna to everywhere and I understand how lucky I am because I can be in your association.

Please, have mercy on me. Sometimes I am proud and think that I am quite important and everything is happening because of my greatness. And suddenly I remember you and become ashamed. How could I act like an arrogant fool? Although I have heard so many instructions on this matter. Please, for give my dullness.

Dear Maharaja, you are my greatest inspiration on spiritual journey. I have heard that the worship of the guru with intimacy and attachment, visrambhena guroh seva, is the foundation of spiritual life. Srila Prabhupada himself exemplified it and it was his main instruction on spiritual practice. I beg you my dear spiritual mentor that I also could worship you with intimacy and attachment although I am not really understandable to the importance of this kind of action viśrambheṇa guroḥ sevā. I cry your mercy to become closer to you and realise the importance of the relationship between guru and disciple.

My dear Kadamba Kanana Swami, you are my only hope to get inspiration to go forward in this spiritual path. It is said that to be in direct association with guru is the most desirable for spiritual aspirants to progress, but even more beneficial is to not be in direct association with him. When you are far from your guru, you can feel the separation from your guru and try to meditate your guru's association. Like Lord Caitanya said in His Siksastakam prayers:

‘yugāyitaṁ nimeṣeṇa cakṣuṣā prāvṛṣāyitaṁ śūnyāyitaṁ jagat sarvaṁ govinda-virahēṇa me.’

My dear Guru Maharaja, I am so happy that I can write and honour you as my greatest inspiration in spiritual life and that is why, when I think of you I can be in your association every time and everywhere I go.

I hope this insignificant offering from your most lowest servant meets you in good health.

Your servants,

Manu Dasa and family



Mathuresh Dāsa

*nama om visnu-pādāya kṛṣṇa presthāya bhū-tale
śrimate kadamba kānana svāmin iti nāmine*

*nama om visnu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-presthāya bhū-tale
guru dāsa jayadvaita svāmin iti nāmine*

*nama om visnu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-presthāya bhū-tale
śrimate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine*

*namas te sārāsvate deve gaura-vānī-pracārīne
nirviśesa-śūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tārīne*

Please accept my humble obeisances.

I would like to write to you something inspiring, but I am not able to do that.

I am thinking about your words in your last health report. I am sitting under the banyan

tree next to the Sankirtan building in Mayapur and I am choked with pain in my neck and stomach. My eyes and nose burns and I forgot about hunger. It is fascinating how much you live for Srila Prabhupada. You wanted us to pray for your health to Lord Nrsimhadeva the same way, like Srila Prabhupada instructed his disciples. We are in the Mayapur and we will pray directly.

I remember the words of His Holiness Bhakti Tirtha Swami Maharaja, that we should write a letter to our guru every day with dedication of our daily activities. I do it in my mind, but maybe I should start physically. I would like to dedicate my study results in M.I to you. Without your influence I would never undergo such thing. I was reading Srila Prabhupada's book, sometimes more than nine hours daily. It was literally an endurance test. We also faced up to some challenges in the study. We passed by a neck. It was possible only because of your blessings.

Three months ago you saved my wretched life and you gave me initiation in the Holy Dham. Since then I was thinking about how I will make you happy. Tomorrow is the appearance day of Nityananda Prabhu and I remember how much I was praying for His mercy in the form of a living guru. It happened very soon in this sublime ISKCON, the most prominent branch on the tree of Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu. He fulfilled our dream and sent us you. We can pray again, but now we can pray for the intelligence of how we can serve you to your biggest satisfaction.

I can wholeheartedly thank to some of your disciples for their example and for their astonishing compassion with me. During the time I could see their change. Thanks to their influence I was inspired to approach you as a guru, because I want to be like them. Wishing to show you my change I pray for your merciful glance at your lotus feet.

Begging for your forgiveness.

miser whom you gave the name,

Mathuresh Dasa



Matsya Dāsa

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Kindly accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

All glories to your divine grace.

Hare Krsna,

In the Srimad Bhagavatam there is a prayer which reminded me of you and which made me contemplate on the Divine Grace coming down through your character. As my humble contribution to this glorious festival, let me please try to paraphrase these verses offered by the citizens in the arena of Maharaja Prithu.

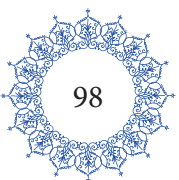
Dear Gurudeva, your reputation is the purest of all, for you are preaching the glories of the most glorified of all, the Supreme Personality of Godhead, the Lord of the brahmanas. Due to my great fortune to have you as my master, I exist directly under the agency of the Lord. Alas, if only I could understand that fact - what exactly makes you the master, the leader and a king?

To start with, it is all about your preaching activities. You are preaching about the supremacy and the glories of the Supreme Lord. You are instructing the distressed; those who are full of desires; those who are simply curious; and those who search for enlightenment, about who they are, who the Supreme Lord is, and what shall one do in order to come to Him and to know Him in truth. Although you are merely repeating the words of your predecessors, you teach by your own example and therefore you are the proper representative of the Divine Grace. It is stated in the Vedas that the Supreme Personality of Godhead is the maintainer and leader of all living entities. Since His representative is no different from Him, to remain under the jurisdiction of such a king or leader, Srila Prabhupada said, is the perfect position for all.

In order to offer such a perfect status to human society around the globe, you travel even more than a professional traveller can. You offer your presence; you make your own body available for us to serve; you give your clothes for washing and your bags for repair; you accept little gifts like sweaters, hats, watches and gloves; you accept the results of our work. You allow us to observe while you expertly offer different items in devotional service, and you allow us to assist you in your service to the Divine couple. You even teach us how to cook, how to clean and wash. In the course of your preaching activities you can walk for hours; you can sing beautiful tunes and melodies for hours; you can sit in the car patiently for hours, or even drive by yourself; you can manage air-tickets, phone calls, emails and so on.

But all this is not at all astonishing. It is not even glorious for a personality like you. You offer your words and instructions, your friendly pat on the back and even a hug; you offer sweet words, encouragements and smiles in support to those who need them; you offer the analysis of our situations through your eyes fixed in scriptures; and you even joke and jest so often with your followers, thus dissipating the burden of material existence, and recharging our batteries for subsequent battles with maya. Not even all that, not even guiding your servants is at all astonishing for you.

There is even more to your character. The nature of great, merciful persons is to have affection for their subordinates. The following prayer adopted from the Bhagavatam defines you completely and so perfectly:



‘Our dear lord, you took the task of ruling over your subordinates. That is not a very wonderful task for a personality like you, who is so affectionate in seeing to the interests of his followers, because you are full of mercy.’ That is the most important greatness of your character.

Saratha Darsini explains that the word ājivinām used in the verse, means “Of the servants, those who have given their whole life.” Affection for such servants is the nature of merciful and compassionate persons. Srila Prabhupada explained as the eternal principle, that the symptom of a qualified leader is that he must be very merciful and compassionate to people, and see to their prime interest, which is to become elevated devotees of the Supreme Lord. Great souls are naturally inclined to do good to others, Prabhupada said, and especially a Vaisnava is the most compassionate and merciful personality in society.

You are that contributor of the greatest benefit to humanity. You are patita-pavana, the deliverer of all fallen souls. Please deliver this wretch as well, this proud rascal who has heard from you so many times about the essence of all existence, has been blessed by your presence, your smile, your instructions, who has been touched by your mercy and your compassion, but has failed to swim across the ocean of fruitive activities unto the shady shore of your lotus feet in pure devotional service. Please beat this rascal with the stick of your merciful anger again and again, so that anarthas and material desires flee in fear far away from my consciousness, without ever turning back.

Please guide this rascal like a king, in surrendering his whole life in pure unalloyed service to your lordship, for the satisfaction of Radha-Shyama.

That is the only kind of service that can match with the full glory of your character, just as this prayer from Srimad Bhagavatam described in confidence.

Your too proud aspiring servant,
Matsya Dasa

Mayapur Chandradoya Dāsa

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my respectful obeisances.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada, His Holiness Jayadvaita Maharaja and your divine grace!

My mind is disturbed by news about your health situation. I know that you hate when people dramatize your health issues too much. Yet your first letter where you asked us to pray to the Lord Nrsimha on your behalf was alarming. Since if it would not be serious you would surely not do so.

Idea of losing your most valuable association is totally unbearable. We pray hard to the Lord to allow you to stay with us longer to continue with wonderful service you are doing. I hope that in the moment when you will these lines, your health condition will be already positively stabilized and it will be clear that Krishna responded to our prayers.

According to Holy Scriptures there are two ways of association with a spiritual master. Namely *vani* and *vapu*. You gave me both so much. More than too many others. Still I feel like a big fool since I mainly took advantage of *vapu* but many times failed to follow your *vani* wasting my time. I posed myself as your confidential disciple, later realizing that many younger God brothers and God sisters do much greater services than me.

Once you shared with me statement of one of Prabhupada's disciples who said that, what happened to His Holiness Jayapataka Maharaja was caused by his disciples who do not follow their vows correctly. You commented that if we will follow nicely, you will not be subdued to different diseases.

I blame myself for sins and offences I committed in the past, since my sinful karma could contribute to your bad health. I hope that current situation is only a lesson for us to become more serious. I pray so that all of us really make a change!

I pray so that Krishna will allow you to carry on with your wonderful services in this world much longer. I pray so that we will be able to do many times more devotional projects and services which will attract and sustain new devotees and please you and Lord Gauranga immensely. I pray so that we have more intelligence, determination and abilities to spread harinam sankirtan.

How ironic life can be sometimes. Many times we are in association with our loved ones but only when we start to lose them, we truly start to reciprocate their love.

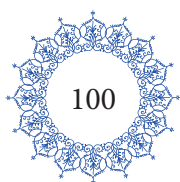
As Srila Prabhupada said:

“If you love your guru, you must follow his instructions.”

Last time when you visited Prague, you spoke to mataji Simona your aspiring disciple and I was translating, you asked me: “*Mayapur, how long do we know each other?*” I counted 17 years and realized how fast the time is moving. Almost in invisible pace.

You told Simona: “*Mayapur has one good quality that he has never left me.*” I thought how great is your humility, since as I told you at that time. In contrary I wonder that you have never rejected me instead.

You are very advanced vaisnava, full of compassion. I never met so compassionate personality in my life ever. I am here today only due to your immense compassion otherwise I would probably be



somewhere else smoking weed day and night just to survive and tolerate dualities of material nature. But for sure I would not be happier.

You many times quote an anecdote from Srila Prabhupada's life, when Prabhupada was told that Gargamuni smokes weed. When disciples asked Prabhupada what to do with Gargamuni, he said tell him:

"That he should stop otherwise I will reject him!" When Tamal Krishna Maharaja asked: *"Would you really reject him?"*

Prabhupada said: *"Off course not!"*

This is your mood - over the years you lovingly cared for me in good and bad times. You were always my best friend and spiritual father giving me necessary encouragement, advice or chastisement. You invested into me tons of your energy but return of your investment has been minimal.

Once in the class you said ... when there is a crisis only thing which matters is love. People are engaged in so many activities which they consider important. Yet when there is a crisis only thing which matters is love.

And that is what I realized when I heard news about your disease. I thought how I wasted my time without reciprocating sufficiently your loving care. I realized how much you mean to me, and how much I will miss you when Krishna will call you one day to join His pastimes. Nonetheless, I hope that this time will come only much later.

I thought that if you would consider just your own interest, you would surely not mind to leave and join Krishna's pastimes now. Nonetheless just because out of love for your disciples you desire to stay longer.

Thank you very much for everything! I feel the weight of my debt towards you everyday more heavy. I will be always your debtor endeavouring gradually reduce my debt which is actually eternally increasing. In this way even when I can say I did so many services, it will be never enough. As you taught us in, the bhakti satri course for the Nectar of Devotion class that devotional service is *krsna bhakti anusilanam*. We have to surrender everyday again.

Recently we had one funny incident which I do not wanna quote here, yet you commented:

"Mayapur, you are still a bit of a punk who wants to paint graffiti on temple president's door."

What to say? I admit my aversion to authority who forces me to do what I do not want. Yet you are my real authority, who I will always respect, love and from whom I will accept any chastisement and never leave.

Praying, to become better disciple. Pleasing you by service eternally.

Your servant,

Mayapur Chandradoya Dasa

Merumālā Devi Dasi

It All Comes Out in The Wash!

It all comes out in the wash,

Said a wise soul to another one day.

As time lingers on I see this unravel,

And I continue to stumble in maya along the way.

You have given me the Holy Name,

Since then nothing has ever been the same.

Attempting to perform devotional service with gratitude,

But still sometimes creeps my foul attitude.

Although there is mostly fear and greed in my stingy heart,

Still I am praying to Lord Nrsimhadeva to tear these ugly anarthas apart.

Guru helps everyone to chant the Holy Name,

Your wishes of eternal happiness for all as you preach Lord Kṛṣṇa's glorious fame!

Your presence brings much needed rain to this drought stricken town,

Your soulful music are the raindrops of mercy to soothe even the most stubborn frown.

When will I realize my great fortune of having you around?

When will I learn to be independently thoughtful for what I have found?

There is not enough time in the day, oh well, what to do!

But you have taught me to make time for Kṛṣṇa because our moments here are too few!

Your support and well wishes for the living entities are abundant and reaches those both old and new,

Because through it all I have learnt that the mercy of Srila Prabhupāda flows through you.

Dear Maharaja, you once sang a tune which I did relate to, *"I am nothing but a stranger always around,*

I'm nothing but a seeker for what I've never found."

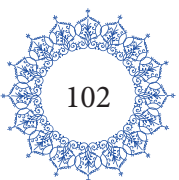
Yes it all comes out in the wash they say,

Yet I remain safe with guru and Kṛṣṇa, come what may.

Your servant of the servant,

Merumālā Devi Dasi

(South Africa)



Mitravinda Devi Dasi

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to Srila Praphupada.

I will thank you to be here in this material world, to help us to find our way back to Krishna. With your deep lectures, you give us the strength to believe that we are not alone, and we can find our way. With your wonderful kirtans, you break the ice around our hearts.

And with your lovely purified smile, you let me know that it is so necessary to have the association with you my guru, cause then I forget all the trouble. I only feel your mercy and that is all I need.

You are my father, my friend, my love. My all I believe in. With my deep love I wish you all the best and health to you on your very special day.

Guru Maharaja ki jai!

Your servant,

Mitravinda Devi Dasi

Murti-Seva Devi Dasi

Dear Guru Maharaja!

Please accept my humble obeisances in the dust of your lotus feet. All glories to Srila Jayadvaita Swami! All glories to Srila Prabhupada! All glories to Giriraj Govinda!

I would like to glorify you nicely on the occasion of your appearance day, but I think I would only be able to do so if I were to understand the depth of your pureness. So instead, I would like to simply tell a story. I still remember it often, because never before I experienced anything like that, and it was a wonderful experience. Maybe for others it is wholly natural, and there is nothing special or worthy of notice in it, but for me, it was.

It happened in the Serbian camp, in 2014. I remained in the kitchen to serve in the afternoon, seeing that there is much service and only a few devotees there. Only some Prabhus cleaning pots and I remained there, when you suddenly appeared on the floor, with your light, determined steps, holding the silver cup of Giriraja Govinda in your hands. While you walked in the direction of the Prabhus, I thought that you had certainly met some devotees on your way, who would all have been glad to receive some mercy of Giriraja Govinda, but you thought about those serving in the background. And I too would have been glad to get some of the maha water, and some people in my place would have surrounded you with agitated attention; but in the same time, I felt that you have a specific idea as to whom to give it, and I have no right to intervene in it.

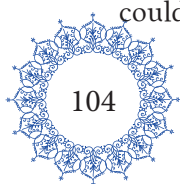
I was peeking what happens behind me, and I was able to see the bliss in the eyes of these devotees. Sadly, I always see that devotees serving in the background do not get maha clothes encased between gold-framed glass plates, nor maha jewels, nor a VIP ticket, if they are not rich enough. I never saw them being allowed to wash the lotus feet of their gurus. They are not recognized and celebrated devotees, often they remain completely unnoticed. But you thought about them, and I think that for them, this meant more than anything else.

Some may think that they are very important, “Do you see? I spend much time with my Guru Maharaja, with Kadamba Kanana Swami!”

But then and there, it became clear to me that there are no rich and poor devotees, or prominent and background ones before you. Only fallen souls in need of mercy. That is the position of us all. You are completely independent. Whatever we think of ourselves proudly is our own false egos. You might give your personal association, and your body is together with the bodies of someone else’s, and undoubtedly, this is a great joy and blessing for everyone. But in the same time your thoughts can be with even those not seen by anyone else. And this is also my fortune. Your thoughts – and not only your thoughts, but your prayers and blessings, and your austerities, all of these are my fortune.

That you have appeared in this world is my real fortune. I thank Krishna for being able to see this occasion; as years pass I can find newer and newer wonderful qualities in you. This deepens my faith in you and in devotional service. You tell us in your lectures that we have to practice Krishna consciousness for many years in order to just become human beings. And you teach us not only with your words, but also with your deeds, and the two are in complete harmony. I would like to offer my sincere obeisances to you and all devotees for having offered their help to me to become a human being.

My dear father! I often think of your austerities, your toilsome days, and that your disciples is all your family and belongings. Thinking about this, love and gratefulness inundates my heart. I feel that I could put everything before your lotus feet to pay back for what I get. Unfortunately, I have no chance



to do this.
What to do? I am eternally your debtor!

Please Gurudeva, think about me too. Pray for me too.

In your eternal service,
Murti-Seva Devi Dasi

Nadia Karuna Devi Dasi

Dearest Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my most humble obeisances.
All glories to Srila Prabhupada!
All glories to Jayadvaita Swami!
All glories to you!

The last year, was an intense one for me. Beside the steps I did and the decisions I made could I always feel your merciful presence, your secure guidance as if a loving father take his child by the hand, to support its tiny moves on the way back home.

Many times I felt as I was in a boat, floating over the ferine ocean of material existence with all its ugly misery and suffering. Your guiding and encouraging words echoed steadily in my heart and gave me strength to go further.

Thank you, Guru Maharaja for being such a big source of shelter and inspiration - at any time and everywhere, through your personal association, your writings, kirtans and lectures as well as through your disciples. Thank you, for being an magnanimous living example, how the mercy of Sri Sri Gaura Nitai can spread everywhere to uplift everybody on the spiritual path and in daily life.

Thank you, for giving me strength, being patient with me and telling me when I am wrong. Thank you, from the core of my heart that you accepted me as your aspiring servant. I feel deep gratitude, that you give me the opportunity to render service unto the lotus feet of such a adorable personality as you are.

Your most indebted servant,
Nadia Karuna Devi Dasi

Nama-Rupa Devi Dasi

Hare Krsna dear Guru Maharaja!

Please accept my humble obeisances

All glories to Srila Prabhupada!

On Nityananada Trayodasi you spoke about how we are entering Vrindavan as outsiders and that most of the times we leave Vrindavan as outsiders as well unless we approach the Lotus feet of Sri Sri Gaura-Nitai, who can help us overcome our resistance to surrender and thus transform our hearts.

I got reminded of that poem of Srila Bhaktivinoda Thakur spreading the news of great happiness about the marketplace of the Holy Name where Lord Nityananda is offering pure Holy Name at wholesale prices.

Then I am thinking how that is possible for me? I do not even have the currency of faith to purchase the Holy Name. How come I am even here on this market place of the Holy Name?

Then I remember my qualification. My connection to you who is so dear to Their Lordships Sri Sri Gaura Nitai, having taken shelter of Their lotus feet. Your mercy is so powerful that I have a great hope. You are calling us:

“If you want to buy this pure Holy Name just come along with me!”

Once you spoke about the big harinam led by Sri Sri Gaura Nitai and Their associates and how all devotees are following. It is a long procession with all the devotees from our disciplic succession. They are all singing very melodiously and dancing gracefully. At the end of that long train are we, dancing and singing as only we can. But we are part of that procession and we are going back home back to Godhead!

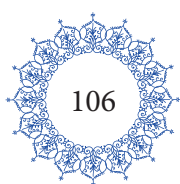
Thank you, dear Guru Maharaja for the gift of the currency with which to purchase this Holy Name. Thank you for showing us how to dance and sing and be a part of that wonderful procession. You have touched and transformed so many hearts including mine. Seeing that I am starting to understand how each devotee has a power to deliver the whole universe.

Grateful and full of joy, I raise my hands in the air and hardly touching the ground I dance and sing:

*Hare Krsna Hare Krsna Krsna Krsna Hare Hare
Hare Rama Hare Rama Rama Rama Hare Hare*

I remain forever your servant and your mercy case,

Nama-Rupa Devi Dasi





I think it will be really nice if my disciples will have real, genuine relationships amongst one another; positive vaishnava relationships. It will be something that will nourish us and it will be something that will attract people from everywhere because the whole world is looking for real, genuine relationships.

Nandan

*nama om visnu-pádāya kṛṣṇa-presthāya bhū-tale
śrimate kadamba kánana svāmin iti nāmine
nama om visnu-pádāya kṛṣṇa-presthāya bhū-tale
śrimate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sárasvate deve gaura-vānī-pracārine
nirviśesa-śúnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tārine*

Hare Krishna Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

I do not have much that is worthwhile to say at the best of times. But now I am completely stumped. Where do I start? No doubt you are a man of cast iron principles and determination. I love that about you. By the Lord's grace you seem to be able to handle anything that comes your way. You are such a strong personality and at the same time you take everything in your stride. You live your life on the loftiest ideals but are so down to earth and approachable that you even tolerate a reprobate rascal like me.

You are so well attuned to the people around you and carry so much experience that you know instinctively how to connect with whoever you meet. You are simultaneously a man of the people, accommodating everyone that you meet. At the same time you seem to have an extremely, deep internal side. This seems to be the source of your strength and your taste for Krishna consciousness. The way you in which you convey the highest, most complex philosophical truths to everyone is so simple, bold but so incredibly potent. When you cut someone with some hard truths, it is coming from such a good place that it is welcomed. Initially it was your kirtans and classes that attracted me to you. But now it is these qualities that really enable me to meditate on you as a person.

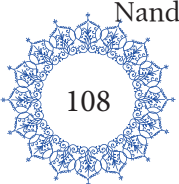
Maharaja, you are a great personality and I see how just being around you is slowly, gradually changing my life and who I am as a person as well as so many others. Maybe Krishna has his reasons for putting you through the ordeal you are going through at the moment. Some devotees mentioned that it is because we have been taking you for granted. Oh Krishna, I am so sorry if that was the case. I have been trying my best to not be a burden on you but to just quietly follow your teachings and emulate your qualities to some level. I need to try more, to work harder on that.

You are doing amazing things, impacting on so many people with a deep sense of mission and I know you are working your socks off in the process. But I am also aware that you desire all of us to now take on some responsibility for the mission. Really come into our own, grab some aspect of your mission and run with it and make it a transcendental obsession in our lives. I am now striving to do that Maharaja.

At the same time, I know you have still got amazing work left to do here. I pray to Krishna again and again that you come out stronger than ever before, full guns blazing. But this time I pray you will be more focused on the specific services that you are now gravitating towards in this stage of your life. Thus all aspects of your body and life will be in complete harmony with the personal mission that you've carved out for yourself in Krishna consciousness. And finally I pray that I can do some sterling service for you in your mission and ultimately do you proud.

Your insignificant servant,

Nandan



Nayanabhirama Dāsa

*om ajṣāna-timirāndhasya jṣānāsjana-śalākayā
cakṣur unmīlitaṁ yena tasmai śrī-gurave namaḥ*

*nama om vishnu-padaya krishna-preshthaya bhu-tale
gurudas jayadvaita swami iti namine*

*nama om vishnu-padaya krishna-preshthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana swami iti namine*

*gaura-kṛpāmṛtam prāptovraje mājāpure'pi yaḥ
prabhupāda-priyo lokam pāyayaty anivāritam*

Dear Maharaja,

Please accept my most humble obeisances! All glories to Srila Prabhupada and his mission! All glories to Jayadvaita swami! All glories to you!

Hare Krishna, writing to you today from Prabhupada's room in Sri Sri Radha-Damodar Temple in Vrindavan thinking of you in hospital and praying for your renewed health and wellbeing and hoping you get well soon and return to us all, we need you! The world needs you!

I was reading your message to us all on blog "The Elephant of Material Life is my Companion," and was so much appreciating your letter. In essence it's the mercy of the vaisnava's that gets us to Kṛṣṇa, not our own feeble endeavors and it is the mood in which we approach devotional service that is the key that opens the chest of ruci and lets us go deeper deeper and allows us to fully get the nectar.

Without taking full advantage of the mercy and all the blessings bestowed upon us, by not approaching with the proper mood, we are not taking full advantage of all the jewels placed before us.

A lesson worth noting. Mood is not an easy thing and a struggle to keep sincere and focused at the best of times, the ego is such a thing that really drives a wedge between us and Kṛṣṇa sometimes and like snakes and ladders we go so far to slip all the way down to start again. This process is really the science of relationships, something as the years go on and on we are learning more and more that we should not waste these precious opportunities and get all the blessings we can get.

Your life Maharaja is a testament to passing the test. One by one they have come and one by one you have passed. Your kirtans are testament to your rich and deep taste, and mood that takes us all with you as you chant for hours and hours. Time seems to disappear in those moments in kirtan with you, how I look forward to your kirtan again.

Your classes are testament to your deep sastric realization and your personal nature that endears us all to you more and more and gives us all so many clear cut realizations that we yearn for more. And your character is like a very kind father, a friend to all, a dear old friend that gives us all so many smiles, laughs and heartwarming moments that we wish we could have you all year round in our own temples and homes.

I feel so blessed that you were merciful upon me and made me your disciple, although many times it

has not been easy and it has been rough sailing, and sometimes it is all too much! But having you as my spiritual master is like the sun that clears up those rough rainy days. Without you, who knows where I would be actually. So merciful you have been.

I hope to one day live up to all the standards you have given me and make you a proud father by making this one life a success.

So stay strong, pass the test, and return again to us all. Look forward to seeing you soon!

Your humble servant,
Nayanabhirama Dasa

Nimai

Dear Kadamba Kanana Swami,

Please accept my most humble obeisances. All glories to Srila Prabhupada. All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami. All glories to your lotus feet.

I do not know how to begin this letter. You have so many good qualities and I have so many wonderful experiences with you. First of all I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart for giving me this unique opportunity of becoming your personal servant. How can I ever thank you enough for all the things you have done for me?

During our travels together I have surely committed many offences but you are always kind and forgiving. You also taught me how to take care of Giriraj properly and engaged me in deity worship that way even though I am not qualified. For that I will be eternally thankful and ever since my attachment for Giriraj is increasing day by day.

In my first week after joining you as your servant, one of my first tasks was to install the mosquito net over your bed. We were staying in a guesthouse in Kolkata at that time and you came back from a long day of meetings. You watched me for a little while, until you realised that I was putting it wrong. You helped me and afterwards, you made jokes in a friendly way about how not every German is an engineer after all.

Being together with you inspires me a lot and I feel deeply indebted because you allow me to have so much of your association. In kirtans you always dedicate yourself fully, like at the Soweto Ratha Yatra in September where you were leading the kirtan during most of the parade. Afterwards I thought, that was it for the day, but instead you later on sang in the main tent and made everyone dance so wildly, that the main stage turned into a trampoline. Another time we were in Spain for the Holy Name Festival. It was the day after an extensive Harinam in Madrid. There the microphone did not work properly and you had to scream most of the time. So your voice was weak the next day and you said you would only sing for forty five minutes. Naive as I was, I believed you, and then you led a fired up kirtan for over two hours!

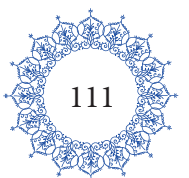
Another thing I admire about you is your deep and honest interest in spiritual scriptures. Whenever you find the time you open a book and actually remember what you have read. In November, we were staying in Mayapur and you skipped a meeting to stay in your room and do something spiritual. Then you read to me from the Caitanya-caritāmṛta, 19th Chapter. There Kṛṣṇadāsa Kavirāja Goswami describes how Krishna has 24 1/2 moons and when he looks at the gopis his glances are like arrows piercing through their hearts. You really liked this theme of the 24 1/2 moons and used it in your vyasa-puja offering as well.

Sometimes in your lectures you speak about different types of intelligence. You say there is slow and fast intelligence for example. I think yours is like an all illuminating light and when you think about a matter you seem to always find the best solution in any situation.

Once again thank you so much for always supporting me. Travelling with you has been the best experience of my life.

Your most fallen servant,

Nimai



Nitya Manjari Devi Dasi

Dear Guru Maharaja,

I offer my humble obeisances unto you.

All glories to you.

All glories to Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

This is a special year for me because you travel with Nimai. I am so very grateful for that. It is an outstanding mercy of yours and shows your wonderful nature to give a chance to everyone.

Although Nimai has known devotees all of his life, you are the one who is touching his heart. You enliven him, and you make a deep impression on him. He is very happy travelling with you. I can see the power of your association. He is becoming more and more purified by doing service for you. It is all your mercy. There is nothing more a mother can hope for her son. I thank you a thousand times for that.

You see the good in everyone, just like Lord Nityananda. You are extraordinarily merciful and lenient to whoever has slightest interest in Krishna. You care for people. You are the most goodhearted person I know. There is no one like you. Your character is unique. In Srimad Bhagavatam 3.25.21 Lord Kapiladeva tells his mother Devahuti about the symptoms of a sadhu:

“He is tolerant, merciful, and friendly to all living entities. He has no enemies, he is peaceful, he abides by the scriptures, and all his characteristics are sublime.”

You have faith in people, you have more faith in us than we ourselves. We may think we cannot do it. We are too weak. But you have such a deep conviction, just like Srila Prabhupada, who boldly went to the degraded western countries approaching anyone to take up Krishna consciousness, having strong faith that devotional service works, and that it is more powerful than anything else.

Devotional service cannot fail, it purifies the heart. You appreciate our endeavours, whatever little or big we do for Krishna. You can see beyond all the material layers covering us for what we really are – eternal servants of the Lord.

We sing every morning that by the mercy of the spiritual master one receives the benediction of Krishna. Without his grace one cannot make any advancement. Dear Guru Maharaja, you are our hope, our shelter and our every thing. You change our hearts.

Your very grateful disciple,

Nitya Manjari Devi Dasi

Nrsimha Caitanya das

Dearest Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada!

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami!

I have made a draft of a vyasa-puja offering sometime ago and I wanted to write it down a few days before deadline. But then everything turned upside down when you wrote to us about your health situation. At first it was quite serious and later the news were more hopeful. Nevertheless my whole draft fell apart since I had been faced with some hard realities surfacing alongside the possibility of your departure.

Number one reality: I am very foolish since I took your presence in this world for granted and hence I was just a cheap follower constantly thinking: *“I still have a time before I take it really seriously.”* As the news sunk in, I was horrified because I realized that my laziness and lack of discipline and determination might have been one of the factors contributing to your bad health. You took my bad karma so that I could practice devotional service and quite often I just badly exploited this blessing.

Number two reality: I realized how little I understand your position - as a spiritual master, as a leader in this world, as a staunch follower of Srila Prabhupada, and as a pure devotee of Krsna. I was just amazed at other devotee's love for you. The immediate response was mind blowing with all the kirtans, Ugra Nrsimha yajnas and most importantly, the three day long book distribution marathon to appeal to Srila Prabhupada and Krsna to keep you here for a longer time. I did what I could though, it still pains me that I could not get myself to go on street and distribute books.

Number three reality: I just do not do enough. I just do not do enough to deserve your smile. I have to do more. You are giving the mercy, it is there for us to take it, yet I am so dull-headed and resistant that I still do not surrender.

Dear Guru Maharaja, it is a truth that the vani, or the order of the spiritual master, is more important than the vapu, the physical form. But I dare to say that a lot of us, your spiritual children, still need your physical presence in order to fully appreciate your instruction and to hold and act upon it. I definitely know that I need it. Please dear Guru Maharaja, do not leave us. Do not leave me. I know that it ultimately depends on Krsna but still I need to say it.

Your would-be servant,

Nrsimha Caitanya das

Pancajanya Dāsa

Dearest Gurudeva,

Please accept my humble obeisance at your divine lotus feet.

All glorious to Jayadvaita Swami Maharaja.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

I am sure this year's vyasa-puja will be different compared to previous ones, mainly due to the recent information about your health. Sincere followers and well-wishers will most probably appreciate your qualities and personality more than ever because of being made aware of how time can suddenly physically separate us from your wonderful association. It is certainly the case for me. I wish I could be around you more often that I can render some menial service to your lotus feet.

However we all know that more than physical proximity what is most important is following your instructions in the matter of executing devotional service to somehow or other please Krishna in whatever state of progress we find ourselves.

So Maharaja, I would like to offer my deepest gratitude and appreciation of the wonderful, merciful, kind, warm and loving person that you have been, and continue to be, to me and many others. It is difficult to say in words how much of an influence you have been in my life. Simply I wish to offer all my endeavours for pure devotional service at your magnanimous lotus feet. A simple offering of trying my very best to chant a fixed quota of nice attentive rounds free from offenses, and maintenance of regulative principles. To deepen the study and understanding of the sastras and try to share with others whatever little I may learn and use whatever talents we have in devotional service.

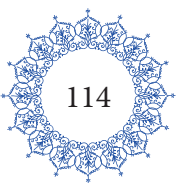
If I have made any progress at all in spiritual life, I know it only to be due to your mercy. And I can just try to follow your wonderful example to dedicate all my life in practicing and spreading Krishna consciousness.

I hope that that will be pleasing to you. You are glorious and all victorious.

Jaya! Kadamaba Kanana Swami Maharaja ki Jaya!

Your servant,

Pancajanya Dasa



Paramesvara Dāsa

Hare Krishna very dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to Jayadvaita Maharaja and to Srila Prabhupada.

Time is flying by and many things are changing in the last few years. I try to serve you for the last fifteen years, since Krishna connected me with you here on Radhadesh. What I see in the last years, that so much impurities are coming out of me.

I see I am not a good servant, good son, good disciple, good follower. So what to do? That is the basic question. After my wrong steps I lost my friends, my family and my service. Only one thing is left, and that is your mercy!! I see you are my real friend.

You are helping me even in the very difficult times. Now I am realizing that you are the real well-wisher! But now the card turns, and I will try to support you in your difficult time, and became your well servant!

Hope to see you soon!

Your servant,

Paramesvara Dasa

Purna Tattva Dāsa

My dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my most humble obeisances.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada,

All glories to Jayadvaita Swami,

All glories to you!

At the beginning of my practise in Krishna consciousness, I practised sadhana very hard and my goal was to become big pandita and preacher. Anyway during time and some fall downs of myself on this secret path, I realised that I was too proud and foolish. Now after twenty five years I may say only one – I am lower than dog and I should be able to honour for anybody. I must say that one thing comes to my mind more and more – when will I be able understand the complete secret of chanting the Holy Name? When will I be able to live in rainfall of Holy Name? So I really try to chant every day very deeply, seriously and with all my heart, as if there was nothing else in the world. Please let me stay in this mood to worship Lord in any moment of my life.

ṭṛṇād api su-nīcena taror iva sahiṣṇunā
amāninā māna-dena kīrtanīyaḥ sadā hariḥ

I am just a doll in your hands. If you want, let me dance.

My dear father, I wish you all the best! I wish you with all my heart a lot of success and joy in spiritual life, good health and real happiness. I know that I am imperfect, but in spite of this, I try to pray for you at the lotus feet of Srila Prabhupada, Sri Sri Gaura Nitai, Krsna and Balarama and Srimati Radharani to help you in any time and in any place.

Your insignificant servant,

Purna Tattva Dasa

Purusa Traya Das

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada!

You are the most important person I have ever met. I hope I will realize it completely in the future.

You are to giving shelter and safeness. I feel protection and I feel that everything is all right. I feel I am at home. In your presence I know that Krsna exists.

Many lives I am drowning in the ocean of ignorance that is full of suffering like birth, old age, illness and death. You are like a lighthouse that shines on the path showing the solid ground.

Vyasadeva wrote Mahabharata for the fallen people of kali-yuga with the tendency of hearing stories. You have engaged these tendencies perfectly. You are giving the teaching of Krsna and Srila Prabhupada in wonderful ways. People can listen to your stories for hours. Srila Prabhupada gave us incredible philosophy and showed by his own example how to live it. Through you as the clear medium I am starting to understand what Krishna consciousness is and how to live it. I can see that you are living life in the service to Srila Prabhupada with lightness, elegance and transcendental pride for being the servant of Krsna.

I have heard that vapu is more important than vani. Therefore I am trying to understand your orders. You gave us hours of lectures and you are the well of knowledge about Krsna. To have a long life has meaning only while studying all of your lectures and knowing you better in these way.

Your disciples are your decorations. They are so wonderful in so many aspects. They are playing instruments, preaching, making theatres, organizing and decorating so many festivals.

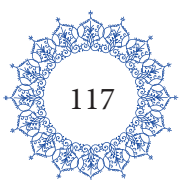
By pleasing spiritual master we please Krsna and by your mercy and by mercy of other devotees I am engaged in sankirtan service. Once in the Ratha-Yatra festival in Prague you told me that you are very pleased when I distribute books. Since then up until now I take inspiration from that memory. Another time during initiation you have told me that sankirtan is the shower of mercy. I am very dirty so I am trying to stand in that shower and get purified. On the first darsan you told me that books can change human live by 180 degrees. By your mercy I can be a witness of these changes.

I believe that thanks to you Krsna will notice me and count my service for you. Krsna likes you and you are very dear to Him. Therefore I thank you so much for choosing a word for me by Krsna. He will listen to you for sure. I am very unqualified and I have no good skills. My desires are about fame, followers, women and wealth. But still you initiated me. You gave me a hand and the only thing I have to do is to hold it.

By the mercy of a guru, the deaf can speak and the paralyzed can walk. I believe that by your mercy I will be able to learn everything. I pray to Krsna for purification and I can become a good tool in your hands and a source of your pleasure. I do not realize fully how much of a great chance you are giving me.

Your servant,

Purusa Traya Das



Purusottama-Ksetra Dása

*yasya prasādād bhagavat-prasādo
yasyāprasādān na gatiḥ kuto 'pi*

To understand the science about Krishna is very difficult and to develop loving devotional service to Him is even more difficult. The one, who is able to trust the words of his own spiritual master, but acts independently, such person, will never be empowered for chanting Krishna's Holy Name. All will be revealed to those, who have full faith in Krishna and spiritual master. Because we cannot perceive the caitya-guru, our spiritual master appears before our eyes as a liberated devotee of Krishna.

Spiritual master is by no means ordinary living being, he is the representative of all demigods and he is our master. The one who has interest only in Krishna consciences dealings must follow the rules given by acarya and must understand their conclusion. Guru is awaking disciples spiritual consciences and he caring about disciples advancement in the ocean of Krishna – bhakti. If the spiritual master is successful at least in transforming one soul in to the pure devotee, his life mission is successful. Eternal duty of the Spiritual Master is to spread devotional service by teaching own disciples the service attitude.

The Spiritual Master is disciples' trainer for the relation to Lord Krishna. We do not try to become master of the Holy Name, but rather we are His servants. Guru is thinking about different plans, how to liberate us from the grip of maya. The child will not grow up without attentive caring of the parents and pubescent disciple cannot be elevated to the level of Krishna consciousness without the caring of one's guru. All suffering is due to lack of pure devotional service in the society of devotees.

You are changing the people. You showed to me, the not advanced beginner, the spiritual world and spiritual life. I am your debtor. You are trying to change the activities of the prisoners and so we are now trying to see Guru and Gauranga. The dry speculator without spiritual activities is trying to please the guru and Krishna. If the guru is not pleased, then are activities are not spiritual. To be Krishna conscious with all the prescribed rules is possible by following all the rules of the scriptures, and like this we will advance in spiritual life.

The Hare Krishna movement is based on the principle to get as much perfection in devotional service as possible and the same to preach for the benefit of others. We should not copy great personalities. We should be untied from sense gratification and accept all positive in the relation to devotional service to Lord Krishna. The spiritual power we are getting only by your leading, by chanting at least sixteen rounds of Hare Krishna Maha-Mantra daily, both in the association of devotees and also while being alone, by happily following the prescribed rules and by preaching the knowledge about Krishna consciousness at least in our village. From your loving network I cannot swim away, even I am being thrown to all sides.

The one, who cannot escape the tsunami of mercy of his Spiritual Master.

Purusottama-Ksetra Dása

Rādhādyuti Devi Dāsī

Hare Krishna

Dearest Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

om ajṣāna-timirāndhasya jṣānaṣjana-śalākayā
cakṣur unmīlitaṃ yena tasmai śrī-gurave namaḥ

‘I offer my respectful obeisances unto my spiritual master, who has opened my eyes,
which were blinded by the darkness of ignorance, with the torchlight of knowledge.’

It was Ratha-Yatra many moons ago when I heard your voice. I knew I had to find you. Little did I know that you would find me. You picked me up, dusted me off and put me in your bag, along with all the other pebbles you found scattered around the world. Sometimes when I jump around too much in your bag you pull me out and dust me off again, returning me to my place. Those are the best of times.

I look around me, my god family, each one with their own quirkiness, their own talents. I see how they execute their devotional service, remaining true to themselves, but always looking out for the best for this movement. I quickly realize, “Ah, *this must be Vaikuntha*”. It is easy to miss these fleeting moments, but sometimes situations put us in perspective.

We learn to live in gratitude.

We learn to appreciate each other.

We learn to build bridges across continents and to move as one.

We learn to lean on each other and hold each other up.

We learn to hold each other’s hand and walk steadily towards you, guiding each other.

And we do this because you taught us how to live. You showed us that nothing else matters except devotional service to Krishna, Srila Prabhupada and his devotees. Each one of us lives that lesson. It is evident in every disciple. Thank you for giving me the spiritual sky here on earth, thank you for my god family.

And yet, in light of your recent illness, you stated in your appeal to us, that we should pray to Krishna to extend your stay here, because you still have a lot of work to do. You are always thinking how to save the fallen souls, even through this crisis you are saving the whole world by sacrificing yourself.

And we are right there behind you, arms raised wanting to help, each in our own way, from dressing the deity to distributing books. What a robust army you have created, each disciple with unwavering faith in this movement. The manner in which you have empowered each one of us reflects that you are living example of Srila Prabhupada’s mood, and it is there for us to imbibe.

Thank you my dear most Guru Maharaja for picking me up and giving me eternal shelter. Thank you for placing me amongst the best of the best. Again, please bless me that I may be of some assistance to you in spreading the Holy Name.

All glories, all glories, all glories to you dear Guru Maharaja, on this most auspicious vyasa-puja! May your glories be spread throughout the three worlds!

Your aspiring servant,

Rādhādyuti Devi Dāsī

(South Africa)

Radhakanta Dāsa

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances at your lotus feet.
All glories to Srila Prabhupada.
All glories to Jayadvaita Swami.
All glories to you.

Time is running out. Sometimes I realize how temporary the world around is. The places change. The people change. I change. But you brought the aspect of eternity into our tiny lives. You brought the meaning to our daily activities. You brought the Holy Name, the Deities, the devotees, practical service. What else do we need? If we direct our activities to trying to please the Supreme Lord, there is no wrong step we can make. Maybe the material circumstances can seem to worsen, but we are making the progress on the right way. You bring us before Srila Prabhupada, Srila Rupa Goswami, Lord Caitanya and Lord Kṛṣṇa. Although we were lost in the material world, engaging in activities leading to hell for millions of lifetimes, your merciful glance has lifted us from this condition. Do we remember that or do we sometimes also complain about seeming difficulties in practicing spiritual life?

“The spiritual master is not a temporary, perishable lump of flesh and blood.”

Srimad Bhagavatam states:

“That the spiritual master is the Lord Himself. He is an incarnation of the Lord. Of his own sweet will, the spiritual master mercifully descends from the spiritual world to this world. He is eternally present both in the Lord’s manifest and in unmanifest pastimes. He always acts as our guide and gives us proper intelligence.” (Srila Bhaktisiddhanta Sarasvati Thakura)

Just before your visit in our temple, I prepared a question I wanted to ask you. Some doubt I have had for few years. But the answer came through an older devotee few days before your arrival. It is also very suspicious how much instructions and answers I get when I listen to your recorded classes.

“So all instructions in the disciplic succession directly comes from the Supreme Person. Therefore to follow the instructions of a spiritual master is to follow the instructions of the Supreme Person. And as soon as we are accustomed to this habit, then all our misgivings of material existence are over.” (Srila Prabhupada, letter to Dayananda, 1968).

No matter how unqualified I am.
The seed is there.
The water is coming from you.

Thank you Guru Maharaja.

Your servant,
Radhakanta Dasa

Reena Rathod

*om ajṣāna-timirāndhasya jṣānāsjana-śalākayā
cakṣur unmīlitam yena tasmai śrī-gurave namaḥ*

‘I was born in the darkest ignorance, and my spiritual master opened my eyes with the torch of knowledge. I offer my respectful obeisances unto him.’

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances at your lotus feet.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada

All glories to Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to you on this auspicious day of your apperance.

I do not know from where should I start my offering, so many things happened in the last year and everything is just because of your causeless mercy on this fallen soul.

One thing when I remember I get tears in my eyes. When my Prabhu and I came to take your darshan in Leicester, my Prabhu asked what other things Reena would need to follow after initiation and very kindly you replied:

“When Reena gets initiated she will be formally my spiritual daughter and it is more of a father-daughter relationship. When daughter goes to her husband’s house then father becomes more concerned about her, I do not want her to do anything apart from following principles and chanting.”

This melted my heart so much and it shows how much you love your disciples. I am very fortunate to get shelter at your lotus feet.

I beg at the lotus feet of Nrsimhadeva to pass on all your pain and diseases to me, so that you can live many more years and enlighten us.

Your insignificant servant,

Reena Rathod

Pancha Pandava Dāsa and Draupadi Devi Dasi

Hare Krishna.

Dearest Srila Guru Maharaja.

Please accept our humble obeisances at your lotus feet.

Guru Maharaja mere words cannot explain our eternal gratitude to you for giving us shelter. For accepting us as your disciples. Guru Maharaja you have lit the candle of pure love and devotion in our hearts. With your blessings only Guru Maharaja, we are serving The Lordships Sri Sri Jaganatha, Baladeva and Subhadra Maharani. We ask our dearest Lordships to protect you, to give you strength and to heal your lotus body. Guru Maharaja may you continue with the incredible and awe inspiring endeavours in the service of Srila Prabupada's movement.

Guru Maharaja with you by our side we never walk alone.

Your humble servants,

Pancha Pandava Dasa and Draupadi Devi Dasi

Revati Devi Dasi

Hare Krsna my dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my most humble obeisances at the dust of your lotus feet.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada,
All glories to Srila Jayadvaita Maharaja,
All glories to you.

“I bow down at the beautiful lotus feet of my spiritual master by whose causeless mercy I have obtained the Supreme Holy Name. He is offering me the service of the son of Saci-mata, the shelter of SrilaSvarupa Damodara, Rupa Gosvami and his older brother Sanatana Gosvami. He is offering me the supreme abode of Mathura, the all blissful abode of Vrndavana, the divine Radha-kunda and Govardhana Hill, and has given me the desire within my heart for the loving service of Krsna and Balarama in Vrindavana.”

This beautiful prayer from Srila Raghunatha dasa Goswami I found just by chance some weeks ago and since this point ‘given me the desire’ was in my mind at that time I thought it would be suitable for my offering this year. At the end I had to change it a little bit to make it suitable for me, I hope Srila Raghunatha dasa Goswami will forgive me of this offense of changing his prayer.

This seems to be my nature – always some own ideas. But on the other hand - as it is said in this prayer – it was you who strengthened my spiritual desire. So I thought, it cannot be completely wrong. In “Preyo Bhakti Rasarnava” there is a verse from The Varaha Purana where Sri Balarama is referred to as the guardian of transcendental desire:

“Similar in complexion to pure crystal, with eyes like the petals of red lotuses, He is the son of Mother Rohini named Ram – I worship the guardian of transcendental desire.”

This verse is part of a song I compiled from verses of this book. I like it very much. But only after reading the prayer from Srila Raghunatha dasa Goswami I began to understand the deeper meaning. That finally really everything is causeless mercy, even our desires. Beginning with mercy of Krsna, of Balarama as the Supreme Guru to the own Spiritual Master’s, your mercy.

Before understanding this I thought:

“I am not very qualified. Actually my only qualification are my spiritual desires.”

And I never thought about how and why I was able to maintain them. But now I finally understood this must be because of your prayers and blessings. Otherwise who knows where and in which condition I would be now? Being in Mayapur now, getting some more inner distance from ‘the rest of the world’ I begin to more deeply realize the sacrifice you are doing day by day. And I ask myself how you are able to do all this travelling, all these programs and at the same time maintain your spiritual life.

Of course preaching is very dear to a pure devotee like you. But still – where and when can you have your private moments? The way how you continue without considering your own benefit it simply



amazing. And it shows how deeply rooted your faith must be. Faith in the Holy Name, in devotional service and in the Lords mercy. The way how you are empowered proves that Krsna must be very satisfied with you!

Some time ago I decided that I will not give my mind unnecessarily scope for independence by changing my decisions. And because I promised myself to make my offering shorter this time I have to do so. But I do not want to miss the opportunity for thanking you for being my best friend in this world; for being there whenever I need you; for showing understanding for my shortcomings. And thank you for all the other things I did not mention here – you know what I mean. In the hope to be in Radhadesh this year (which is absolutely not sure while I am writing this) I wish you all the best and pray to Lord Nrsimhadeva for your protection.

My dear Guru Maharaja, just when I was about to finally send my offering I received the shocking message about your health problem. So I will just add something, because otherwise my will become nothing but lamentation:

In Germany one sometimes complains:

“Die good ones are always dying first”

I am still shocked, what can I say? Perhaps Krsna cannot tolerate it anymore to see you in this world. For myself I would not mind that much to leave this world. We have to leave this body anyway. And I think:

“Is it type of selfish to have the desire for your association forever?”

Yes, I am praying for you that Krsna may make happen to you whatever is most beneficial. Not for us, but for you! And that He may not allow you to ever come back here to save your foolish disciples who were not serious enough to make it in this lifetime. I do not want to be part of the reason for you to take this trouble again. And I am sure all my god brothers and god sisters feel the same.

So please do whatever is needed for yourself now and do not worry about us. I have full faith in your prayers for our strength in devotional service. Krsna will listen to you and take care of us - because you are His dear servant.

And I hope that Lord Nrsimhadeva will listen to all our prayers for your protection – not just for the body but for you, the embodied spirit soul, like all of us on the journey back home. And much closer to the goal than we are.

I remain forever Your eternal servant,
Revati Devi Dasi

Sabhuja Dāsa

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

All glories to Jayadvaita Maharaja.

All glories to you.

Although I started to write the offering for this year's vyasa-puja, already last year it took me a while to finish. Many thoughts - the news coming in, remembering moments with you, this year and before. Having breakfast with you in Vrindavan, hearing you sing in your room in Mayapur, standing in front of the house, running up and listening from outside of your room. Putting straw between my mouth on your balcony, you said *"After that I can tell you anything."* Was I ready? You could sense it and reacted accordingly. You asked me where I would be without you, and I also wonder. For sure on another path, it is hard to find someone who can penetrate through all this layers of false ego and attachments. You spoke about Brahmananda Prabhu:

"No No Prabhupada is not God, but nowadays I think he is bigger than god."

What should I say? Seeing how much you inspire all of us, how your disciples and other devotees go beyond their limits in hope of your betterment shows your greatness, and that you are able to reach out to us. Seeing the dedication of your disciples I feel like Uddhava seeing that the dedication of the braja vasis is so much greater than his own.

Brahmananda Prabhu was a symbol, a symbol that loving Krishna's devotees is even higher, giving us an even deeper absorption that loving him. Krishna himself confirms this, also Siva and Srila Prabhupada. When you spoke about Brahmananda Prabhu last year during vyasa-puja, and I understood what my way was. Long way to go, but you make it smooth and worthwhile to walk it without having to doubt if it is the right one.

Thank you for always being there for me, for sending me to Brahmananda Prabhu so I could learn from him. Get his blessings and attention and follow his footsteps. You have so much appreciation for him. When we went to his Samadhi ceremony last autumn you took the humble seat on his side, not at all in the mood of seen and be seen but in a mood of getting the blessings from a great vaisnava. It gave me pain to see you sitting there deserving something else. But I got the lesson. Not to judge from where someone is seated but what is in his heart.

I got some other realisation from it as well that how Krishna would also feel that his devotees should be treated and appreciated appropriately. Since some years gurus in our society do not get the same level of respect that they had before. Well knowing that you do not like to be treated as a guru. I am not look at the official side of worship but more at the internal side, of how important we take the guidance, values and advice from you. How serious do I try to please you? I am not good in worshipping you in official ceremonies and with official words. I hope to be able to worship you by my actions. I realise how much I lack in qualification and sincerity to do it. Latest since your class in Mayapur in December I know my status.

I try to fly high,

in the sky



of spiritual realisation.

That is why

I need your mercy.

Because I know that

I am just a chicken

and you told me

that I am just a chicken

You are amazingly determined, to give a class about Yackandandah just one day after operation without even mentioning something about it, no trace of effect, it says a lot. I hope one day I am able to cope with that level of determination.

So far you were always talking Leo rising, but since you are talking cancer my mind gets disturbed. I can understand, this world is not a place for a gentleman. And to be back in Krishna s hands is the perfection of life. My hope is, we as your disciples and friends can create at last a tiny glimpse of similar sentiments in you as the followers of Caitanya Mahaprabhu:

“Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu called all His devotees together and, holding them by the hand, humbly informed them, “You are all more dear to Me than My life. I can give up My life, but to give you up is difficult for Me.” (Śrī Caitanya-caritāmṛta, Madhya-līlā, 7.8)

Your humble servant,

Sabhuja Dasa

(Germany)

‘mad-bhakta-pūjābhyadhikā’

(Srimad Bhagavatam, 11.19.21)

“Because of the Lord’s generous appraisal of His pure devotees, worship of the pure devotees is described as superior to worship of the Lord Himself.”(SB 11.19.21. purport by Srila Prabhupada)

Lord Siva tells Parvati, “My dear Parvati, there are different methods of worship, and out of all such methods the worship of the Supreme Person is considered to be the highest. But even higher than the worship of the Lord is the worship of the Lord’s devotees.” (Padma Purana)

Sadbhuja Dāsa

Hare Krisna Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

This is my humble offering for your vyasa-puja day. I am the happiest person because I meet you. You gave the best example what mean real happiness and freedom.

Your humble servant,

Sadbhuja Dasa

Sanatani Devi Dasi

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

All glories to Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to you.

I do not know where to start, and I do not know what to write.

But while I am writing this my only thought is that I pray to Krishna that you will be well. Have a fast recovery and stay with us for many years. I am not ready to not have you around. So I pray to Krishna that He may let you stay so you can continue your preaching here.

I want to thank you for giving me shelter and guiding me back home to Krishna.

Please forgive all my offences, and please bless my dear Kamala Gopi so she can be a wonderful vaisnavi.

Your rascal servant,

Sanatani Devi Dasi

Sanjaya Dāsa

All glories to His Holiness Srila Kadamba Kanana Swami. All glories to His Holiness Srila Jayadvaita Swami. All glories to His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Srila Prabhupada.

om ajsāna-timirāndhasya
jṣānāṣjana-śalākayā
cakṣur unmīlitaṁ yena
tasmai śrī-gurave namaḥ

‘I was born into the deepest darkness of ignorance, but my spiritual master opened my eyes with the torchlight of knowledge. I offer him my respectful obeisances.’

Following in the footsteps of great acaryas, we often recite this prayer at your lotus feet, and as we do so, we should have the desire to offer these words with deep understanding and appreciation. In this age of Kali, so it says, the mass of human society has totally degraded from the standard of authentic human civilization.

Instead of using the most valuable gift of Vedic culture in order to fulfil the true purpose of life, especially in these western countries, we are habituated to live a life of cheap sense enjoyment, or as Srila Prabhupada would like to say, ‘A life like cats and dogs.’

Being born into this age of Kali into mundane society actually means to be doomed. From childhood on we learn how to be envious, selfish, smallminded, dirty, lazy, and how to cheat ourselves and others.

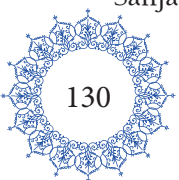
We do not learn so much about the laws of karma and reincarnation, or about the different planetary systems, or about the principles of proper worship of superiors and demigods. We do not properly learn what it actually means to be a human being. And what to speak of learning about Kṛṣṇa? Kṛṣṇa, the Supreme Personality of Godhead, resides eternally in Goloka Vrindavana, being knowledge and bliss, totally absorbed in absolute loving relationships with all his associates. So it is said, and it takes a few seconds to simply repeat those words, but it takes so much to realize them.

But it is described that only about five hundred years ago, this Kṛṣṇa, Supreme Personality of Godhead, came to this world, to this very planet Earth, to become His own devotee, Sri Caitanya Mahāprabhu, and by His example teach us not so much about Vedic culture or ritualistic religion, but about the essence of religion, about Himself, and how we relate to Him. He, as Sri Caitanya Mahāprabhu, gave us the Holy Name, He gave us His association and the association of His close associates.

As these words are written, it is the appearance day of His direct expansion and closest associate Sri Nityānanda Prabhu. Even though Sri Caitanya Mahāprabhu is called the most merciful form of Kṛṣṇa, it is said that Sri Nityānanda Prabhu is even more merciful. Whereas Sri Caitanya would ask us to follow a certain standard of purity and behaviour. Sri Nityānanda would not discriminate in this way, and without hesitation would approach the most sinful and fallen personalities, like, as we all recall, Jagai and Madhai.

You once said, “That in this material world, time rules, whereas in the spiritual world relationship rules.”

Your servant,
Sanjaya Dasa



Satish

All the glories to Sri Guru and Gauranga
Please accept my obeisances.

Hare Krsna my name is Satish. I have some pastimes to share on how I met Guru Maharaja. Two dear friends of mine Sarwan and Swami brought me to ISKCON. Sarwan had a little room and there he had a little altar with pictures of Krsna and Srila Prabhupada. Immediately I was impressed how pure and radiant Prabhupada looked and I asked, “Oh, who is this person?” I got my first Krishna conscious book from Sarwan.

Sarwan was already vegetarian and convinced me to stop eating meat. He had sat and sang with the devotees from Amsterdam and Antwerp temple. His brother Swami and Sarwan took me for the first time to Antwerp Temple on a Sunday. I did some seva in the kitchen and helped cutting vegetables for the feast. And it was there where I saw Guru Maharaja for the first time. It was between 2000 and 2002 when I met Guru Maharaja.

He already took sanyasa then. So the first Swami that I saw was Guru Maharaja. After my first meeting with Guru Maharaja I visited a lot the Antwerp temple at that time. We had conversations. The thing that I noticed from Maharaja was that he had no attitude like, ‘Hey look I am the Swami.’ In this you find an easy and open accessible, humble devotee of who just knows to say the right words. So qualified to know how to address different groups of people - devotees or non-devotees. Just saying the right words to break the barrier of understanding at ease. And not forgetting that he sings like an angel. By his way of preaching through his kirtans, mela’s and bhajans, yes then through time I knew this was my Spiritual Master.

Guru Maharaja I am very grateful of. The date that I met Guru Maharaja for the first time was actually in 1997. Just before Maharaja took sanyasa. A little pastime story that one time, I was in Radhadesh and at that time Guru Maharaja was also there. So at that time Bhakti Purusottama Swami was also there. So Bhakti Purusottama Swami asked me to bring him a book. I think it was the Bhagavad-Gita or Srimad Bhagavatam from the tent. So in the tent Guru Maharaja was preaching (giving lecture) so I went in the tent and tried take the book from Guru Maharaja, and he grabbed the book and chastised me by gesture.

And felt bad as I was too proud with my false ego. And in that way I got a little mercy from Guru Maharaja’s chastisement.

Your servant,
Satish

Satyarani Dasi

Dearest Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories unto Srila Prabhupada. All glories unto His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami. All glories unto you on this auspicious day of your appearance.

Please kindly accept this offering of words and I beg that you please kindly excuse the offenses that I have committed within this writing.

*nama om visnu-pádāya krsna prestháya bhú-tale
śrimate kadamba kánana svámin iti námine
nama om visnu-pádāya krsna-presthāya bhú-tale
guru dāsa jayadvaita svámin iti námine
nama om visnu-pádāya krsna-presthāya bhú-tale
śrimate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti námine
namas te sárasvate deve gaura-váni-pracárine
nirviśesa-śúnyavādi-páścātya-deśa-tárine*

Whatever may be considered difficulty has shown the beauty of your character just as the radiance of the moon and stars becomes clearly visible on the backdrop of a cloudless - evening sky. Your strength, patience, tolerance, faith, determination, enthusiasm, inconceivable generosity and your unflinching fixedness in devotional service is an inspiration to whoever may have the great fortune of your association. Showering equal kindness on those persons you always reciprocate according to their present capacity and capability. However insignificant an offering may be, you accept it joyfully and give it value. In this way you are always deeply encouraging.

Who else other than the bona fide Spiritual Master who (without deviation) presents the essence of the teachings of the acaryas, and thus ultimately Krsna Himself. Who is without four defects, who is situated on the transcendental platform above the three modes of nature. Who is the well wisher and friend of the fallen. Who can see beyond the unimaginable layers of impurities - the eternal servant of Krsna and who is endowed with the inconceivable potency to deliver that fallen servant and free him from innumerable debts. I offer my repeated respectful obeisances unto you.

Srila Prabhupada once explained that a disciple basically means, no more argument to become a blank slate and simply surrender to the Spiritual Master. Within this heart I have rebelled innumerable times but never once have you neglected me or withheld your compassion. You have so much generosity and vision of potential to lift a person beyond what they could ever imagine. By your mercy you sometimes call me a devotee, whilst really I have no any devotee qualities yet and so far, I have never really made any good offerings to you by distributing mercy.

I simply pray and wish, that although I am a wretch in the guise of a devotee, that I may attain, that which I lack, the greatest - and offer it to you my Spiritual Master who is my spiritual father, teacher, friend and life force, whose teachings will remain with me eternally and whose vibrant kirtans saved me. I pray to become and remain your eternal servant and to make your life's dedication, my very own, in spreading the great fortune of Krishna consciousness.

Your aspiring servant,
Satyarani Dasi



Sesa Dāsa

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All Glories to Srila Prabhupada.

All glories to Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to you.

Srila Bhaktivinoda Thakura informs us in Harinama-Cintamani the importance of meeting a genuine Sadhu. Someone who can strengthen our spiritual inclination and explain spiritual knowledge to us.

On this auspicious day of your vyasa-puja celebration I reflect upon our relationship. I look at my life and the intervention you have had in it.

I look at all the empty gaps I previously had, which you have come along and filled with Krishna consciousness. When a situation arises I now have another ringing voice appear within my consciousness! Some guidance, an interaction, an expert from a class, something which I have seen you do, ultimately many glorious gems which I have received from you appear. You have given me so many wonderful gifts which I am just about beginning to unwrap and see how endless happiness is unveiling through your divine intervention. Such is the magnanimity of Mahaprabhu and you, his pure devotee.

There is a verse in the seventh canto where Prahlada Maharaja states to Nrsimhadeva:

‘My dear Lord, O Supreme Personality of Godhead, because of my association with material desires, one after another, I was gradually falling into a blind well full of snakes, following the general populace. But Your servant Nārada Muni kindly accepted me as his disciple and instructed me how to achieve this transcendental position. Therefore, my first duty is to serve him. How could I leave his service?’

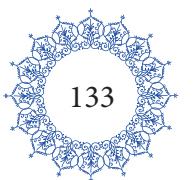
So this day has shown me how much you have given to me and are saving me. Now I must deeply reflect on your instruction and plan how to execute them. After everything you have given how can I ever leave your service? I beg and pray to Nrsimhadeva to protect me and make me conscious as well as ever-cautious of difficulties on this path, whilst also giving me the intelligent and fixed determination to execute your orders. Now I look at how to place some weight on my side of our relationship. I look to you as a son looks up to his father. I will never be able to live without you but real living with you comes through following your instruction and in such a way I will always develop a deeper connection with you and be open to your guidance.

I thank you for being that genuine sadhu who has come into my and many other people’s lives and given us this option of taking to a mission to regain our dormant Krishna consciousness and serve others.

I pray to Gaura-Nitai, Giriraj-Govinda and all the devotees to awaken my desire to serve you and help me in my attempts to become of some use to you.

Attempting to become your servant,

Sesa Dasa



Simona

Dearest Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances.
All glories to Srila Prabhupada!

My offering cannot be very long, because I am not good disciple. I have not done a lot of terrific service. I have no good vaisnava qualities. Because of my sinful activities are suffering others and I am not sure, if I have ever pleased you. I do not need to hide that I am not cool and good servant.

However Maharaja, here I am and I am trying to do my best every day and be better in the depth of my heart. Now I cannot offer nothing then my faithfulness and devotion. My mission is to be finally good girl-servant and not a rascal.

Dear Maharaja I see a lot of light thanks to your mercy. It is common word, but practically translated - it means possibility, which brings me closer and closer to the real purpose of life. I see bigger and bigger sense in service, in Prabhupada's words and japa. You gave me a chance and strength to be brave.

Maharaja, you are the best and coolest person I have ever meet! I found in you my role model. If I can give you something, I would give you my heart. And if it would be possible, I would give you my health, because you use this body better than ten thousands of people like me.

Thanks you Maharaja. Thank you for all.

Please stay with us longer. People like me need you. Thanks again.

You servant,

Simona

(Slovakia)

Sudama Dāsa & Rupa Manjari Devi Dasi

Hare Krsna dear Srila Guru Maharaja,

Please accept our humble obeisances.

All glories to you, and your unflinching services to Srila Prabhupada and his mission.

Our hands are dirty, minds and thoughts are impure, and also we are very poor sadhakas. Due to these and many more disqualifications, how can we wish or pray for you? What value or power such prayers or wishes will have? I have serious doubts.

However, I can definitely share my sincere feelings towards your well-being. Your electrifying enthusiasm, your ever increasing service dedication, your powerful kirtans and classes and many more elements in devotional services inspire us how to engage in the service of Krsna and His devotees.

We are fortunate to get shelter under your supreme protection against material energies. We are fortunate to get that mercy of the Lord which is only channelized through the Spiritual Master. We are fortunate to get blessed with your intimacy towards us. The only pity is that we are misusing your energy, we gain out of your causeless mercy and put them in unnecessary mundane activities.

As this year's offering I would like to tell that I have tried to manage some menial services in the temple, though not as effective as a good temple authority would have done. As every year, I will definitely commit myself for serving you and your mission is best of my abilities. May Krsna do not put you into any calamities or sufferings due to my insincerity, disobedience towards your instructions or my offenses towards the sadhus. May Krsna give me intelligence to take up services sincerely and execute them properly, and to serve you in the best possible way.

I request Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu, Srimati Radharani, Lord Nityananda, Lord Nrsimha deva to take care of you, shower many benedictions and blessings for your long life, full of great health and spiritual achievements, which inspires us and benefit the entire globe.

Your servants,

Sudama Dasa

Rupa Manjari Devi Dasi

Sri Vibhu TR Dasa & Sri Vibhava Krsna Dasa

Súrya Náráyana Dása

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Everything memory to you, strengthens and moves forward to and especially up through the ranks of the spiritual World. Without you it would never possible. Thank you very much and constantly try to think on your lotus feet. To help me overcome the physical addiction and fills me calm.

Your servant,

Súrya Náráyana Dása

Sutapa Dāsa

Dear Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances

All glories to Srila Prabhupada

Recently you reminded us of what Tamal Krishna Maharaja said to you – that the duty of a spiritual master is to help the disciple form a vision for their life that is much broader than they could have come up with by themselves. “I don’t want to just run around ‘pumping up tyres’ and supporting people to do the basics – my role is to help them reach their potential and do something amazing” you said.

You are a true broadminded visionary – bold, empowering and practical. You have come before us, giving us so many opportunities to step into the dynamic world of Krishna magic. You are inviting us to sit close to Srila Prabhupada and experience the miracles and mercy of Mahaprabhu’s mission. You are teaching us to plant the pearls, carefully nurture them, and then manifest many more gleaming pearls in our life.

Now the ball is in our court. Do we have the faith, the bravery, the determination and the urgency to take seriously what you tell us? How deeply will we meditate and reflect on the transcendental gems you constantly throw at us? Are we willing to shake off lethargy and laziness, stop dragging our feet, and ignite the fire of sacrifice that will set our Krishna Consciousness alight?

We have met your goodness by the will of providence. Although you are unlimitedly patient, everyone’s window of opportunity is closing. With the rising and setting of the sun, our life is undeniably being taken away. Time moves on, and lots left to do – need to dig deeper, sacrifice more, extend further and work harder. Not a second to lose.

Maharaja, I’ll try to sincerely take it more seriously,

I beg to remain, your humble servant,

Sutapa das

Sveta Ganga Dasi

*om aṣṣāna-timirāndhasya
jṣānāṣjana-śalākayā
cakṣur unmīlitaṁ yena
tasmai śrī-gurave namaḥ*

All glories to Srila Prabhupada!

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Maharaja!

All glories, all glories to His Holiness Kadamba Kanana Maharaja!

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my obeisances at your lotus feet on this day of your vyasa-puja. I am not qualified to praise you, as what I can offer is a fraction of what you deserve. I write this only days after finding out about this disease you are going through, and your example of a vaisnava shines even more.

It is overwhelming to see all the devotees praying for you to get through this, because we all have faith that you can take us back to Kṛṣṇa. We all need you here! I remember one day in the car I said to you how everyone loves you. You replied with 'everyone loves Kṛṣṇa'. Yes that is right, but it is you who enchants us with Kṛṣṇa's past times and makes us more eager to know Him.

Again I am able to express this from Srila Prabhupada's Samadhi in Sri Vrindavan Dham, where you had faith in me and took me under your shelter and initiated me into the parampara. Here I am able to reflect on my spiritual life and my relationship with Srila Prabhupada only due to your mercy. Your blessings are all we have, and I am trying to make the most these.

One blessing was being able to reside in New Govardhana. This place has stolen my heart. I am happy at the farm, there is no where I would rather be. I pray that you will be able to visit us many more times again.

Happy vyasa-puja Guru Maharaja!

Your rascal servant,

Sveta Ganga Dasi

Tamalini Dasi

My dear Gurudeva,

Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to your divine grace. All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami. All glories to the lotus feet of Srila Prabhupada.

A vyasa-puja offering in honour and celebration of the life and teachings of the representative of Srila Vyasadeva, an exalted personality who tirelessly preaches the message of Srila Vyasadeva. A vyasa-puja offering in honour of you Gurudeva, a torchbearer of the divine teachings of the luminous Srimad Bhagavatam as enunciated by Srila Vyasadeva. How wonderful it is that you carry this illuminating message to the dense darkness which surrounds us kali-yuga inhabitants, lighting up the path to the spiritual world.

How can one even begin to understand the extent of mercy bestowed upon the disciple from Guru? I confess. I cannot comprehend the amount of mercy received from you because it is limitless and unbound. I do not have the capacity to receive such unbound and limitless mercy which is constantly flowing. I pray that someday the ebb and flow of my faltering devotion will be completely immersed in the incessant flow of *your mercy*. It is said that by the mercy of Sri Guru A dumb man can speak in an eloquent manner, a blind man can see and a lame man can cross over mountains,

*mūkaṁ karoti vācāraṁ
paṅguṁ laṅghayate girim
yat-kṛpā tam ahaṁ vande
śrī-guruṁ dīna-tāraṇam*

There is a lot of work to be done on my part in order for me to fully access your mercy. I pray Gurudeva, with your mercy, guidance and leading the path that I may cross over the mountains of material obstacles that are holding me back and obstructing my vision of all that is spiritual and connected to Krishna.

In the Bhagavad-Gita, Sanjaya speaks of how it is only possible for him to hear the confidential dialogue spoken between Lord Krishna and Arjuna by the mercy of his Guru Srila Vyasadeva

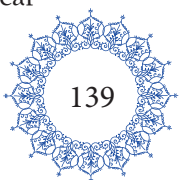
*yāsa-prasādāc chrutavān
etaḍ guhyam ahaṁ param,* (Bg. 18.75).

Also, in the Bhagavad-Gita, we hear of how Lord Krishna bestowed Arjuna with divine vision in order for Arjuna to see the Universal Form of the Lord. This form, Krishna mentions is not visible to the material eyesight. At the same time, we have Sanjaya, who is describing every detail of this very form and sight with ease, how is this so? Only by the mercy of Guru. As Sanjaya mentions with great faith: “All of this, I am able to see by the mercy of my spiritual master Srila Vyasadeva” (Bg 18.75).

What more can one say?

‘Ācārya-vān puruṣo veda, only one who has a guru can know the truth,’ (Chandogya Upanishad 6.14.2). I feel enormously blessed to be connected and linked to the parampara through you Gurudeva, a true representative of Srila Vyasadeva. And so, on this day of your vyasa-puja, I thank you for blessing me with your unlimited mercy, for which I pray I may one day be a worthy recipient of. I thank you for being true to the teachings of the guru parampara and for leading by example like a true leader and teacher.

I have been meditating on how to stay connected to you, how to go beyond demanding your physical



presence. I want to be connected to you forever Gurudeva. I have been thinking about this for a while now and I understand that the only way for me to remain connected to you is for me to be connected to Krishna. Because everything you say and do is for Krishna. You have dedicated your mind, body and words to Krishna. I am a long way from achieving this, but I will not give up! Just like you said to me thirteen years ago that you will never give up on me and so, I too will never give up on connecting with you on a deeper level and keeping your teachings alive in my heart.

Always praying for your mercy.

I remain Your eternal servant,
Tamalini Dasi

Tanumadhya Dasi

Dear Kadamba Kanana Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

It has been only two months since my initiation, so please forgive any ignorance shining through in this letter. It is still with amazement that I realize just how fortunate I am to have been accepted as your disciple. May I come to really understand the depth of being your faithful servant?

In this short time I have, by your mercy, experienced how prohibitions are not restrictions, but instead how it brings liberation. And it is by your mercy and instructions that I now have access to the most confidential knowledge as described in Bhagavad-Gita 9.2:

rāja-vidyā rāja-guhyam
pavitram idam uttamam
pratyakṣāvagamaṁ dharmyam
su-sukhaṁ kartum avyayam

It is said that only if one is taking shelter of the instructions of the spiritual master these instructions begin to flourish within one's heart and then one will actually be protected, and this knowledge will become full of fruits. It is by taking shelter again and again that we will gain strength. Without taking shelter we will not be able to succeed in spiritual life, we will struggle. In the initiation lecture you said we need the strength to be brave enough to surrender unto Kṛṣṇa as in Bhagavad-Gita, 18.66:

sarva-dharmān parityajya
mām ekaṁ śaraṇam vraja
ahaṁ tvām sarva-pāpebhyo
mokṣayiṣyāmi mā śucaḥ

You gave me my spiritual name and said while in this lifetime I must strive to become '*the perfect servant of the perfect person*', just as the gopis are perfect servants in the spiritual world. I may not fully realize at this stage what it means to be a perfect servant, but I know that perfection must lie in giving my life in full surrender and dedication.

May I take shelter again and again to find the strength to become your perfect servant, and may Kṛṣṇa ultimately manifest within our relationship.

Your servant,

Tanumadhya Dasi

Ter Kadamba das

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances at your lotus feet.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

All glories to Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to you.

I want you to know that I really like being your disciple. From the first time I saw you I recognized you as my Guru Maharaja. I would love nothing more than to write something beautiful, profound and poetic to capture the full range of emotions I feel towards you on this most auspicious occasion. The only thing is, I am super busy at the moment (really, I am), so I do not think I can do it without sacrificing the quality of my service to the preaching mission of Srila Prabhupada. I will not bore you with the details, but I pray you trust I am doing everything in my power to fulfil your desires.

Got to run, time is scarce.

Hare Krishna Maharaja!

Your humble aspiring servant,

Ter Kadamba das



We pray to Govardhana that we may become a servant who can please Kṛṣṇa. I was also praying that my endeavours here, in going around Govardhana, that my disciples may be blessed with determination in their devotional service.

Tirumala Devi Dasi

To my most beloved Spiritual Master, my Guru Maharaja, Srila Kadamba Kanana Swami,

*nama om visnu-pádáya krsna prestháya bhú-tale
śrimate kadamba kánana svámin iti námine*

*nama om visnu-pádáya krsna-prestháya bhú-tale
guru dása jayadvaita svámin iti námine*

*nama om visnu-pádáya krsna-prestháya bhú-tale
śrimate bhaktivedánta-svámin iti námine*

*namas te sárasvate deve gaura-váni-pracárine
nirviśesa-śúnyavádi-páścátya-deśa-tárine*

Please accept my most humble obeisances at the dust of your merciful lotus feet innumerable times.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada. All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Maharaja. All glories to you dear Guru Maharaja on this auspicious day of your vyasa-puja.

This is a humble attempt to capture my deep sense of appreciation to you on this auspicious day of your vyasa-puja, I humbly pray that you may accept it.

To say that I understand even a drop of the bottomless ocean of your mercy would simply be untrue. Fortunate are those to be under the limitless shower of your blessings, the potency of which is beyond my capacity of comprehension. No, the depth of compassion and love of that of a pure devotee is unmatched and most certainly cannot be measured.

Guru Maharaja, you have such a selfless, beautiful golden heart that unconditionally, mercifully teaches us how to transform this otherwise bleak and desert-like material world into the spiritual world. Your blessings are of unlimited value and can fill the emptiest heart.

It will never be possible for me to fully repay you for transforming my life, for filling this once barren heart. It is a debt that will never be repaid in full and one for which I am grateful to bear, for it is a reminder of the shower of your sweet nectarean mercy and love that I have been swept up in.

What more then, can one ask of from one who has been so selfless, so generous? But I am just a fallen soul who was fortunate enough to have my heart touched of your mercy and so I helplessly ask for just one thing, Guru Maharaja, please may I be your servant in all my lifetimes? Please may I serve you in the spiritual world? This is all I want now, to be your servant and somehow please you, my beloved Guru Maharaja, the master of my heart.

With all my love

Your eternal servant and daughter always,

Your Tirumala Devi Dasi



Tukaram Dāsa

*brahmāṇḍa bhramite kona bhāgyavān jīva
guru-kṛṣṇa-prasāde pāya bhakti-latā-bīja*

‘According to their karma, all living entities are wandering throughout the entire universe. Some of them are being elevated to the upper planetary systems, and some are going down into the lower planetary systems. Out of many millions of wandering living entities, one who is very fortunate gets an opportunity to associate with a bona fide spiritual master by the grace of Kṛṣṇa. By the mercy of both Kṛṣṇa and the spiritual master, such a person receives the seed of the creeper of devotional service.’ (Cc. Madhya 19.151)

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

All glories to sri guru-parampara.

We can hear this verse from Śrī Caitanya-caritāmṛta and many things can come to our mind. We see how due course of karma we are still wondering throughout the entire universe. Life after life. Even without knowing, that we are changing our bodies, we lived many lives in deep illusion. In lower species of life just running to what our senses are attracted to. Eating, sleeping, mating and defending. This is going on. That was for what we lived, that was for what we died. And again the same, *punaḥ punaś carvita-carvaṇānām, chewing of the chewed.*

Not seeing and having nothing better, again chewing the chewed in the cycle of birth and death. In our wandering throughout the universe in different bodies with our karma coming up and down through all planetary systems in all types of bodies. Sometimes maybe as a demigods, but surely sometimes as a worm chewing what was literally chewed. That is the reality. Sometimes fighting, sometimes laughing, sometimes crying and sometimes absorbed in *jaḍānanda* - dull pleasure of material life.

Practically living only in our dream of non-existing material happiness, which is always, only almost within reach. Yes living in the dream without awakening. In a deep sleep, in a dark and cold place. Eternally, from time immemorial! But:

guru-kṛṣṇa-prasāde bhakti-latā-bīja

‘One who is very fortunate gets an opportunity to associate with a bona fide spiritual master by the grace of Kṛṣṇa. ...such a person receives the seed of the creeper of devotional service.’

Guru Maharaja, I would like to thank you from bottom of my heart which is yet not very clean. But still without shame I would like to thank you from bottom of that heart, for that you took up this top most service in this material world and became Guru. One through whom that unlimited mercy from Krishna is coming down to us. You are the gardener by whose mercy poor weed farmer as me, could receive the top most seed - bhakti lata bija. Now you planted the seed some time ago to my heart and fortunately it is still growing because of your mercy by your careful gardening and by teaching me how to become a good gardener too. How not to grow the weeds as before, but to be a gardener cultivating creeper of bhakti only by hearing and chanting in servitude mood.

You are the one who is used by Krishna, by Srila Prabhupada and by whole Gaudiya vaisnava society to distribute bhakti lata bija. You are the empowered gardener who is cultivating not one bhakti lata creeper but already taking care for many fields. I know that some fields you have in South Africa some in Europe, Australia, in India also. I pray that I can learn from you more and more how to be a good gardener and follow in your footsteps and footsteps of previous acaryas.

Thank you for giving me a chance to cultivate bhakti and have a real vision, not just a dream about tasting one day a fruit of bhakti, prema-bhakti. Thank you for Bringing Radharani's mercy to all and thus making others very fortunate souls too, by giving them opportunity to come out from the illusion, from the endless cycle of birth and death.

I am also praying for you to have a long healthy life full Krishna's mercy which will be overflowing and thus watering all your fields full of healthy bhakti creepers which are enough strong to hold the heavy bhakti fruits.

Your servant,
Tukaram Dasa

Tulasi Dāsa

Dear Gurudeva,

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

All glories to Jayadvaita Maharaja.

All glories to you.

On this most auspicious day of your appearance I want to thank you for everything that you are doing for me. In the song “Gurudeva” it is said

*jogyatā-vicāre, kichu nāhi pāi
tomāra karuṇā-sāra*

‘If you examine me you will not find good qualities.’

Your step on the spiritual path by giving me initiation. You also trained me in devotional life, you even showed me some of your favorite harmonium tunes.

Little after my initiation you told me - the disciple is and absolute property of the Spiritual Master. It is easy to surrender to someone so qualified as you. One of your biggest assets is that you yourself are complete property of your Spiritual Master. The words and desires of His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami are the essence of your life. You understand his desires and you give your best to fulfil them.

One time Jayadvaita Maharaja said about you:

“He is so qualified disciple.”

You always gave priority to Srila Prabhupada and his mission in your life. Taking leading role in so many projects and places in ISKCON - Vrindavan, Mayapur, building Srila Prabhupada’s samadhi and so on. Especially the last twenty years you are traveling all over the world very intensely to spread the message of Lord Caitanya, taking the position of one of the generals of his army. Despite all the difficulties with your health and the difficult situations in ISKCON and in the outside world you continue to push on this movement.

You are very strict with your sadhana, never missing the mangala arati, never saying no to any preaching opportunities. You are always trying to minimize your bodily needs - minimum sleep, minimum eating. You are very organized in your daily routine, not wasting even a moment not utilized in Kṛṣṇa’s service.

You are regularly spending time in Mayapur and Vrindavana. You told us that the Dham is one of the great inspirations in your spiritual life. But for you this is not just a time for rest. Rather it is a time for strong sadhana, for teaching and studying the scripture, doing parikrams and preaching programs.

It is said, a vaisnava is someone who is making others vaisnavas. You are connecting so many souls to the disciplic succession by giving initiations. You are also inspiring thousands of people to advance in bhakti by your lectures and special kirtans.

You manage to conquer the hearts of so many people not just because you are a great speaker and musician, but because you are so personal with every individual, always ready to give time. The door of your room is always open to visitors. This is the real magic.

As you said few times: When I make kirtans I am not playing the harmonium, I am playing the people. Because you are so personal, respectful and kind people want to surrender and to be led by you, by your example, advices and ideas.

This year vyasa-puja is a special day. I am with mixed feelings - of gratitude, but also of sadness and some fear. We know that the vani are more important than vapu. But still we are attached to your association and we are afraid not to use it. This is way now we pray to Krsna to allow you to finish your service.

We need your inspiration, example and guidance. Please be merciful to us.

Your eternal servant,

Tulasi Dasa

Uddhava Dāsa & Visakha Devi

Dasi

Spiritual life will work best when you simplify while material life means entanglement. As I am visiting Macedonia I observe that life can be quite simple. Cooking on a wood fire stove that provides heat at the same time. No need for complicated systems; just wood. And when the power goes out it will continue supplying comfort. Less entanglement is a good basis for putting attention to important matters. It provides focus.

But life will throw unexpected things at us, Krishna interferes with our karma and we tend to get entangled. What is required is focus. But what is it made up of? Focus is the result of faith and taste. When you like to do something and you have faith in the outcome, focus will be there.

You particularly like Caitanya lila. You speak animated about it, you believe in it and hopefully one day you will write about it. That requires faith and taste. Next to your extensive travelling you make sure to read and deepen your knowledge. After endless meetings, darshans and taxing festivals you keep your routine, getting up early and chanting your rounds carefully. And when time permits practicing new tunes.

That is impossible without faith and taste, as you are showing us.

We can only lament about our lack of it, ask you once again to forgive our shortcomings, and pray for more intelligence to realize our silly predicament.

Your servants,

Uddhava Dasa

Visakha Devi Dasi

Urugaya Dāsa

Dear Gurudeva,

Please accept my humble obeisances.
All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

Guru Maharaja you are always very personal, not just with your disciples but with every individual. You make jokes and make us laugh but actually you are very grave and sober, because you understand the greatness of Kṛṣṇa. Your laugh is unique. You make this “uhm” sound all the time when you are speaking, it is very nice, and I can listen to you speak or sing unlimitedly. You inspire me greatly. I recall the first time I met you I was a new bhakta - speaking with you I just remember thinking.

“Wow, I want to be like this person.”

You are always very personal, and that is how I can understand God is a person.

I had a dream. It was essentially a nonsense dream where I was playing rugby for my old school. But you were the referee. Now that was tremendous for me because it shows despite all my rascal behaviour you are still looking over me all the time. You are in my life (despite physical boundaries) keeping watch, giving guidance. That is certainly comforting.

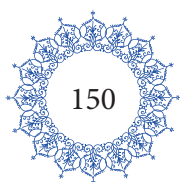
Here in Sydney preaching is going nicely. I can see tangibly the impact of distributing Srila Prabhupada's books. Many western boys and girls are taking an interest in Kṛṣṇa and Lord Caitanya's sankirtan movement. I take inspiration from you. Thank you for always being there for me, even if I cannot see or understand or appreciate your presence.

You once said to me that a diamond looks far better against a black background, and that similarly, this age is not kali-yuga but “Caitanya-yuga.” Your words are beginning to resonate with me more. Kali-yuga is an ocean of faults, but the Holy Name is the greatest benediction. This sankirtan movement is the light that will dissipate the darkness of ignorance clouding the minds of the world's misdirected civilisation. You are so kind and selfless that you traverse this world of three dimensions selflessly spreading the glories of Kṛṣṇa, Lord Caitanya, and Srila Prabhupada, following in the footsteps of your Guru Maharaja and the parampara. You gave your life to Srila Prabhupada and to ISKCON.

I remember you saying that when you first came to Krishna consciousness you found the devotees fanatical ways of living intense and you kept making “offences.” You even left and made one boy fast for three days until you returned. But you had a lot of faith in Srila Prabhupada and now you are serving him greatly. And by Srila Prabhupada's mercy I came into contact with you. This is the real perfection of my existence, and Kṛṣṇa's causeless mercy.

So now it is getting to the point where I have to let go of my material baggage. Sometimes you do a skit where you imitate falling from a rooftop - I have already slipped from the roof and now I am holding on to the gutter not ready to let go, and you are saying to me let go and I will catch you. Actually already you have caught me, so now it is up to me to follow your instructions.

Your aspiring servant,
Urugaya Dasa



Vaibhavi Devi Dasi

My dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my most humble obeisances at your divine lotus feet.
All glories to Srila Prabhupada!

Oh vaisnava, ocean of mercy, be merciful to me, your servant, and purify me by the shade of your lotus feet. I try to humbly pray to your lotus feet and constantly hold it.

Please purify your servant from the six from types of urges and six types of shortcomings and give me the six types of good qualities. Please give me the six ways of holy association.

By myself I have no power to chant the names of Lord Hari. So please be merciful to me and give me a drop of faith in the treasure of the holy names of Krishna.

Krsna is yours. You have the power to give Him to me. I am simply your servant running behind you shouting, “*Krsna! Krsna!*”

Gurudeva! Make this servant more humble than the blade of grass by a drop of your mercy. Give me strength to pass all tests and difficulties and deliver me from all desire for personal recognition.

Oh Lord and Master! Give me strength to appreciate all living entities. Only then will I be able to chant the Holy Name in great ecstasy and all me offences will stop.

Oh Lord and Master! When will this devotee be blessed by your mercy? I am low, fallen and bereft of all strength and intelligence. Please make me your beloved servant.

When I examine myself I do not find nothing worthy. Your mercy is therefore decisive for me.

You are always very merciful to me and I wish very much to be able to constantly reciprocate with this sweet mercy by my small service.

I wish to be a good instrument of yours in your worship of the Supreme Lord.

Hare Krishna. Thank you for everything,

Your minute servant,

Vaibhavi Devi Dasi

Vaisnava Dāsa

nama om visnu-pádāya krsna-presthāya bhú-tale
guru dāsa jayadvaita svāmin iti nāmine
nama om visnu-pádāya krsna-presthāya bhú-tale
śrimate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
nama om visnu-pádāya krsna-presthāya bhú-tale
śrimate kadamba kánana svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sárasvate deve gaura-vānī-pracārine
nirviśesa-śúnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tārine

Mein lieber Guru Maharaja Kadamba Kanana Swami,

in großer Demut verneige ich mich vor deinen Lotusfüßen. Mit liebevollen Gedanken umkreise ich dich und bringe Dir mit Blumen und Gebeten meine Ehrerbietungen dar. Mit großer Ehrfurcht und Freude streue ich den Staub deines Weges auf mein Haupt. Nicht aus Bülle, sondern in der Hoffnung, dass dadurch ein Art von Energie mich durchdringen möge, die mein Ego in Stücke reißt, ähnlich wie Nrsimhadeva einst Hiranyakasipu vernichtete.

Lieber Guru Maharaja, so wie die unzähligen Strahlen aus der Sonne, so kommen in ähnlicher Weise all die Lebewesen aus Krishna und jeder atma scheint dabei mit seinem dharma exakt einen Teil der großen Schöpfung zu beleuchten. Du erhellst gleich das ganze weite Land mit deiner bloßen Anwesenheit – du gibst Licht in der Dunkelheit des kali-yuga. Ich danke Dir von ganzem Herzen, denn du hast Licht in die tiefe Dunkelheit meines Herzens gebracht. Wenn ich an dich denke, so sehe jemanden winken und rufen: *“Hier lang, hier lang! Hier geht es lang!”*

Genauso wie es in der Sonne keine Dunkelheit gibt, weil sie die Quelle des Lichts ist, so gibt es auch in deiner Nähe keine Zweifel mehr, denn du bist die Quelle all unserer Zuversicht. Danke lieber Guru Maharaja, dass du mir den Weg leuchtest. Irgendwie versuche ich hinterher zu kommen. Du bist so gütig, bleibst immer wieder stehen und rufst: *“Hier lang, hier lang! Hier geht es lang zurück zu Krishna!”*

So wie ein Schiff, dass in einen dichten Nebel fährt und umdreht, damit es nicht auf Grund läuft, rufst du uns zu: *“Kehrt um, kehrt um, hier lang, hier geht’s zurück zu Krishna!”*

Ja, so wie das Meer von den Flüssen, die Flüsse von den Bächen und die Bäche von den Quellen gespeist werden, so nährst du die Welt durch dein Vorbild. Wie der große Ozean des Friedens, so kennt deine Barmherzigkeit mir gegenüber keine Grenzen, denn du hast mich, als deinen Schüler akzeptiert und mit der guru-parampara verbunden. Danke, danke, danke! Ohne dich und diese Verbindung wäre ich wie ein vertrocknetes Blatt in einem Stadtpark – einfach nur verloren.

Ja, so wie das Universum seinen anfang in der heiligen Silbe AUM nahm, so begann mein Leben in der Begegnung mit dir. Ohne dich und die Verbindung zu Srila Prabhupada wären wir, deine Schüler nur leere Hüllen. Du gabst uns das Leben.

Danke, danke, danke, lieber Guru Maharaja. Du bist unser Licht, unser Wasser und unser Leben.
Dein ehrfurchtsvoller Schüler,

Vaisnava Dasa



Vasudeva Dāsa

The Noble Tree

*namo om viṣṇu-padāyakṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tāle
śrimate kadamba-kānana-svāmin iti nāmine*

*gaura-kṛpāmṛtam prāptovraje mājāpure'pi yaḥ
prabhupāda-priyo lokam pāyayaty anivāritam*

“Let us offer our respectful obeisances to Srila Kadamba Kanana Swami Maharaja, who is dear to Lord Krishna, having taken shelter at His lotus feet. Maharaja, the dear servant of Srila Prabhupada, obtained the nectar of Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu’s mercy in the holy dhama of Vrindavana and Mayapura, and he ceaselessly causes the people of this world to drink that nectar.”

Dearest Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my most humble obeisances.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

The lives of saints are often full of suffering. Even the Pandavas, the Lord’s own associates, suffered misery after misery. Remembering their suffering, the dying Bhishma declared, with tears in his eyes:

“You did not deserve to remain alive under these tribulations [SB 1.9.12].”

As we contemplate all that you suffered in this life, we are inclined to speak like Bhishma.

You once said in a class in Vrindavan:

“If I would tell you the story of my life, you would cry for three days.”

Then you explained that we should focus on the positive, not on our suffering. That quality of being fiercely determined to go on serving with enthusiasm, against all odds, makes you the noble *sadhu* you are:

*titikṣavaḥ kāruṇikāḥ suhṛdaḥ sarva-dehinām
ajāta-śatravaḥ śāntāḥ sādhaḥ sādhu-bhūṣaṇāḥ*

“The symptoms of a sadhu are that he is tolerant, merciful and friendly to all living entities. He has no enemies, he is peaceful, he abides by the scriptures, and all his characteristics are sublime. [SB 3.25.21]”

As another terrible calamity has come your way, we once again witness your superhuman capacity to tolerate suffering, and moreover, your immense capacity to give yourself in service. On the occasion of Nityananda Trayodasi, you stood up from your hospital bed to sit down on the vyasasana to sing kirtan and speak Krishna-katha, giving your all to inspire faith, enthusiasm and conviction in those who depend on you. Your tolerance and generosity exemplify the most essential teaching of Sri Caitanya:

ṛṇād api su-nīcena taror iva sahiṣṇunā.

Krishna Das Kaviraja [Cc. Antya 20.23-24] explains that a devotee who actually chants the Holy Name tolerates in two ways:

vṛkṣa yena kāṭileha kichu nā bolaya
śukāñā maileha kāre pānī nā māgaya

“When a tree is cut down, it does not protest, and even when drying up, it does not ask anyone for water.”

yei ye māgaye, tāre deya āpana-dhana
gharma-vṛṣṭi sahe, ānera karaye rakṣaṇa

“The tree delivers its fruits, flowers and whatever else it possesses to anyone and everyone. It tolerates scorching heat and torrents of rain, yet it still gives shelter to others.”

The tree is a symbol of tolerance and generosity. Lord Krishna in similarly praised these noble qualities of the tree:

Lord Kṛṣṇa said:

“O Stoka Kṛṣṇa and Arṁśu, O Śrīdāma, Subala and Arjuna, O Viśāla, Vṛṣabha, Ojasvī, Devaprastha and Varūthapa, just see these greatly fortunate trees, whose lives are completely dedicated to the benefit of others. Even while tolerating the wind, rain, heat and snow, they protect us from these elements” [SB 10.22.31-32].

The noble tree patiently and silently tolerates its lot, yet always generously extends itself to give shelter to those in need. Similarly, you patiently bear your suffering with grace, and continuously live in full surrender to the will of Hari, guru and vaisnava, always extending yourself for the benefit of all, especially your disciples. Today we admire the glory of the offering of your blessed, saintly life, just as Lord Krishna marvelled at the noble tree.

Today we thank you for being such a noble, wish-fulfilling tree. We thank you from the depth of our heart for always extending yourself to us, giving us shelter while disregarding your own pleasures and pains, sharing your wisdom that shades us from the burning miseries of material existence, and nourishing our faith with the ripe fruits of your own realizations in Krishna consciousness. May we all be blessed with a honey drop of your forbearance and generosity.

Your servant,

Vasudeva Dasa

Vasuman Dāsa

Dear Guru Maharaja!

Please accept my humble obeisances at your lotus feet!

All glories to you!

All glories to Jayadvaita swami!

All glories to Srila Prabhupada!

nama om visnu-pādāya kṛṣṇa presthāya bhū-tale
śrimate kadamba kānana svāmin iti nāmine

nama om visnu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-presthāya bhū-tale
guru dāsa jayadvaita svāmin iti nāmine

As always I am writing my offering to you the last days of deadline when I was ready to write you I saw the sad news on the internet about your health condition. Now I am a little bewildered and my mind is running here and there remembering all conversations we had together the last fourteen years. Sometimes we laughed, sometimes you were very strict to me but all this was one good relationship which I could learn more and more. Now I am reading the letter you sent to all of us and my eyes are full of tears when you write that:

“You are all wonderful people, I know you personally and I know that you have a heart of gold. I pray, that you may find the strength to dedicate yourself to devotional service for the rest of your life.”

You are so personal towards us. And you always preach no matter how you do it. Just a short association with you makes a person inspired to do something for Kṛṣṇa. You are such an example. Guru Maharaja I am sure everything with your health will be okay. And I will sing every day Nṛsimha pranama for your well-being. Let the problem go away and you recover yourself. Let you inspire us many years further.

I wish you a lot of happiness in your not easy service to Kṛṣṇa!

Your insignificant servant,

Vasuman Dasa

Virabhadra Dāsa

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to Srila Prabhupada. All glories to Srila Jayadvaita Swami. All glories to you.

The past year has been an amazing experience for me. I was initiated by you on 24 December 2014, and my spiritual journey had begun. But what to do? And where to start? How to please you? And how not to displease you? So much going through my mind. And then, like a lightning flash, it was 24 December 2015! A year had past! I reflected on what I did to please you. Yes some service here and there. Book distribution, harinama. But did I really do enough?

At the beginning of this year I was most fortunate to be in your association at the Sravanam Kirtanam retreat in Drakensburg. I was very much relishing the kirtans and classes which contained so much instructions. There was also some funny moments, the incident with the snake on the hiking trail. And that most beautiful lecture by the waterfall after this snake incident. You really boosted my enthusiasm to continue struggling along in Krishna consciousness.

On the last day of the retreat you ask me to direct and act in some skits regarding highlights of the retreat. I am totally useless at acting and what to speak of directing. But I followed your instruction and did it. The devotees loved it, gathering from their response and remarks afterwards. Then I experienced the realisation that when the Spiritual Master gives an instruction, his blessings come with it as well.

In the same way, when you said some time back that I must continue my service of harinama sankirtan, I took it to heart and the street chanting has been steadily growing and I am influencing other devotees to go out on the streets to spread Krishna's names. This is all happening only by your mercy Guru Maharaja.

On The Appearance Day of Lord Nityananda this year you said in your class how Lord Nityananda is so intoxicated with prema that He cannot even see and He is giving mercy blindly to everyone. The Spiritual Master is the representative of Lord Nityananda, and Guru Maharaja I can see that you are just like that magnanimous personality whom you represent.

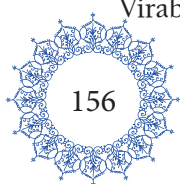
Also this year we received the devastating news of your health condition. Honestly, I did not know how to react to this news. But when we spoke on that Saturday morning I saw how strong a personality you are and how you were totally surrendered to Krishna leaving everything up to Him. This made me feel proud to be your disciple and I also felt reassured that no matter what happens everything is in the hands of the Lord and the Lord will protect His devotees.

The next morning we were conversing again. This time you asked me a very deep question. You asked: "What are you doing in essence in your life?" I gave you an answer at that time. But later in the day while reflecting on our conversation I kept on asking myself: "What am I doing for Guru Maharaja? What am I doing for Guru Maharaja?"

Regrettably, my answer was 'not enough'. This made me realise that I am just being carried by your unconditional waves of mercy.

Your most insignificant and unworthy servant,

Virabhadra Dasa



Visvambhara Caitanya Dāsa

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to you, to Jayadvaita Swami and to Srila Prabhupada. Recent events surrounding your health has changed the way I look at this vyasa-puja offering and the way I look at our relationship.

Until now I was under the illusion that your vapu would be present forever. In other words that you would always be there in person. You would be there to give me second initiation when I eventually got up to the mark. That you would be there to bless a child in that eventuality.

But now I see your association as so extremely valuable and precious. Just before your health update I only very briefly took your association in Radhadesh for the Mellows as well as in the UK, being busy with other things. This I now deeply regret. Similarly I regret not making more of previous opportunities of getting your association.

You knew of my familiarity and tried to make me aware of the weight and preciousness of your association but to no avail. I fondly yet sadly (because I had to be informed of the worth of your association) remember you waking me up in the ashram in Radhadesh and telling me it is auspicious to see your Guru first thing in the morning. Thank you for still having faith in me and trying to help me when others gave up.

I am now taking your instructions (which are the instructions of the parampara) seriously, in an attempt to come up to speed with all I have been slacking with. I know what to do from you and I always knew what to do due to you. However only now I am doing it. You will no longer hear me lament about being spiritually weak whilst not being combined with an attempt to fix that.

All the spiritual wealth I own I dedicate to you who has kindly given an undeserving soul like me more than my two arms can take, and more than my miserly mind can appreciate. I have received more instructions and things to do than one lifetime can allow. I would really love to make you proud.

Srila Bhaktisiddhanta Saraswati was proud of Srila Prabhupada's poem "Absolute is sentient Thou hast proved, Impersonal calamity Thou hast removed."

If I may glorify you for your exuberance when it comes to Lord Caitanya, through quoting the following verse:

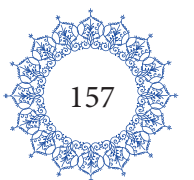
*ei gupta bhāva-sindhu, brahmā nā pāya eka bindu, hena dhana vilāila saṁsāre
aiche dayālu avatāra, aiche dātā nāhi āra, guṇa keha nāre varṇibāre*

'No one, not even Lord Brahmā, can ascertain or even taste a drop of this confidential ocean of ecstasy, but Śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu, out of His causeless mercy, has distributed this love of Godhead all over the world. Thus there cannot be any incarnation more munificent than Śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu. There is no greater donor. Who can describe His transcendental qualities?' (CC.Madhya-līla, 2.82).

It is so obvious for you, that we should grab this mercy, go after this mercy. I seek your mercy to remember your mood, instructions and person Guru Maharaja.

Proud to be your disciple,

Visvambhara Caitanya Dasa



Yasmin

Hare Krishna Your Holiness Kadamba Kanana Swami,

Please accept my respectful obeisances.

I am so honoured to write to such an elevated soul, as your holiness is, at the occasion of your vyasa-puja.

Dear Maharaja, thank you for giving me your valuable time. There are days when I so much need spiritual support and then I reread your messages full of knowledge and mercy:

“Prabhupada is spiritually self-effulgent like the sun, we are trying to be like the moon, we try to follow his teachings, and then our lives become filled with spiritual energy. So let us all together choose for Krsna and we will all become effulgent with spiritual energy. Trying to be Prabhupada’s humble servant.”

Immediately after reading this and many other spiritual messages from you, I feel better and I face with confidence any situation. Jaya! Listening to your lectures, to Krishna Katha from your lotus mouth, to your voice in kirtan, fills my heart with joy. You are so special!

I do not know how I got the mercy of Sri Sri Radha Krishna, that I was noticed by you and that I will have the chance, one day, if Krsna allows, to meet you in person. I feel that in my life it will be a wonderful change, a rebirth. I only want to serve you, Kadamba Kanana Swami, with love and devotion. I bow down with great attention at your precious lotus feet, because only with your mercy I can get pure devotional service!

“Association with a great personality is most important. In Caitanya-caritamrta Lord Caitanya says that sadhu-sanga, the association of a great saintly person, is very important, because even if one is not advanced in knowledge, simply by association with a great saintly person one can immediately make considerable advancement in spiritual life.” (SB 3.23.54, purport).

All glories to His Divine Grace Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada, and to you Kadamba Kanana Swami!

Jay Gaura premanande Hari hari bol!

Your servant,

Yasmin

Yasoda Dulal Dāsa & Aniyora Devi Dasi

*namaḥ oṃ viṣṇupādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale,
śrīmate kadamba kānana-swāmin iti nāmine*

*namaḥ oṃ viṣṇupādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurudasa jayādvaita-swāmin iti nāmine*

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept our humble obeisances.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

First of all, thank you for your everlasting selfless sacrifice even in this year, when your health was getting worse. Thank you for creating such a wonderful family of our god brothers and god sisters around the world.

While visiting Slovakia and Czech Republic You often stressed the importance of cultivating saintly qualities. You said that one way how to develop these qualities is by associating with them. The most natural way of associating with these qualities is by associating with people who have these qualities.

There are not many people left in this world who have these most important qualities but we, your disciples, are lucky enough because you as our beloved Spiritual Master are showing us day after day what these qualities mean. You are the embodiment of selflessness. You are always thinking how to give the mercy to others. Who can be a better example of renunciation, tolerance, nonviolence, wisdom, knowledge, purity, honesty, self-control, compassion, gentleness etc. than you?

The most important of these qualities is according to you generosity. In one of your lectures you said that **namo mahā-vadānyāya**, generosity is the essence of this movement. You show us this generosity and selflessness. You give your whole self to the others – in kirtan, while travelling, lecturing, managing, advising, consoling etc. And even now, when you are going through extreme difficulties caused by disease. An average man would withdraw himself and take care of himself but you always think of the benefit of your disciples first. Once in Radhadesh I asked you what it means to become a man. Now I can see that this is one of the meanings. You want to save the others and protect the others first.

Please, stay with us and show us by example what these qualities mean. Please, give us more opportunities to serve you.

Your servants,

Yasoda Dulal Dasa and Aniyora Devi Dasi

Yasodha Devi Dasi

Hare Krishna Hare Krishna Krishna Krishna Hare Hare
Hare Rama Hare Rama Rama Rama Hare Hare

Respectable and honorable Maharaja,

Please accept a very humble and respectable obeisances, from your servant Yasodha Devi Dasi.

I am trying to write this letter as an offering for your vyasa-puja to be held at Radhadesh in April 2016. I recollect that last year in 2015 during your vyasa-puja I was able to participate at Radhadesh and I was fortunate to be blessed by your mercy while you gave me harinam diksha. This was the most happiest and memorable moment of my lifetime. But this year unfortunately I will not be able to travel to Radhadesh from Chennai, India as my son is presently not in Netherlands. I pray sincerely that the vyasa-puja celebrations happen very nicely. I sincerely pray to Lord Krishna for your well-being, and I pray that you are able to carry on your services with good health and without any obstacles.

Having taken your shelter, I beg for your mercy, blessings that we (me and my two sons) are able to carry on sincerely in the path of devotional service to the best of our ability. As promised to you, I am trying my best to chant 16 rounds of Hare Krishna maha mantra every day and keep my vows. I am attending Bhagavad-Gita classes every Sunday and also trying to study Srimad Bhagavatam regularly but I find it difficult to study due to lack of education and knowledge, but I am trying.

Last year in November 2015, I had attended Kartik yatra of His Holiness Radhanatha Swami Maharaja in Govardhana (Vrindavan) along with my son Tamal Govinda Dasa. We tried to meet you at Krishna Balaram temple but unfortunately we were unable to get your darshan at that time and I felt sad. I do not know when I will get a chance to serve you in my lifetime. But I sincerely pray to Krishna in my heart that I am able to follow your instructions sincerely, and carry on devotional service to Krishna, so that in this way I can please you Guru Maharaja.

I am eternally grateful and thankful to you for having given me shelter.

Your servant,

Yasodha Devi Dasi

Yogeshvara Dāsa

Hare Krsna dear Gurudeva,

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

I received mercy dear GurudevA. Not ordinary mercy, but 2 in 1. That is that my first visit of Holy Dham, India, was sanctified by your presence. Somehow, not by my own credit, but thanks to the mercy of your disciples Mukunda Madhava Prabhu and his wife Jahnavi Devi Dasi. I could visit India with them at the time when you were there. Thank you for unforgettable moments during bus trips in Vrindavan and Mayapur where thanks to your bhajans and lectures I could smell closer to the secrets of many pastimes of Radha and Krsna, and to the stories about Caitanya-lila as well.

Even more I am grateful to you that I could take part in vyasa-puja of Jayadvaita Swami and thus I could be a bit closer to you. But was I? In spite of understanding only about 70% of what was said in English, I accepted this share with great gratitude.

But the cherry on the cake of my visit to Holy Dham was the possibility to serve the disciples of Srila Prabhupada at a dinner that you organized for them. I am not a person who has the possibility to meet with such special souls often and I even did not dream I could ever get such a service.

Thank you, may this experience help me to ignite the spark of desire to please you by my action, dear Gurudeva.

Your eternal servant,

Yogeshvara Dasa

Yudhistira Dāsa

The hermit and his cave (22.12.2014).	There is no room for Him.	can leave his cave	on the secluded comfort of the rocky floor
I am a hermit living in the cave of my own mind.	I take up too much space in my narrow mindedness.	and venture into the villages of simple folk, and maybe,	and the mouldy walls. He can even dare to go beyond, and leave the cave behind
Such a secluded existence has it's advantages.	I need to get out more. Harinama is nice.	by interacting with a few souls, by sharing something, a longing for Krishna,	altogether. This prospect, to die and part, far, far away
You become quite articulate from listening all day long to that voice, always speaking, speculating, contemplating.	The cave lights up, and there are people, devotees. From the platform of engagement for the spreading of the holy names of Krishna,	his life may be granted value, purpose. And although the world outside the cave, is a strange one, in which a hermit may feel misplaced, much because of his awkward appearance, speaking in riddles, or broken sentences.	from the solace of the cave, certainly seems truly unnatural for a hermit. But if it pleases Krishna and the Spiritual Master, this hermit hereby pledges his life to that service.
However, it is a lonely reality. Why? Because Krishna is not manifest there. Why would He go there?	any dwelling can be utilized. Kings can embrace the peoples of this world. Sadhus can change the hearts of the wayward. A hermit	Having spent all those years in that remote cave, his heart always dwelling	

A photograph of four people walking away from the camera on a gravel path. From left to right: a man in a white tunic and white turban; a man in a bright orange tunic and orange turban; a woman in a green tunic, white dhoti, and a pink and red striped headscarf; and a woman in a white tunic and white headscarf. The path is bordered by green grass and trees on the left, and a building is visible in the background. The sky is blue with some clouds. A semi-transparent text box is overlaid on the right side of the image.

“So let us try something extraordinary in our own way,
according to our own inspiration and our own... whatever
it may be. But in our own field let us do something
extraordinary for Krishna!”



gaura-kṛpāmṛtam prāptovraje māyāpure'pi yah
prabhupāda-priyo lokam pāyaty anivāritam

“Maharaja, the dear servant of Srila Prabhupada, obtained the nectar of SriCaitanya Mahaprabhu's mercy in the holy dhamas of Vrindavana and Mayapura, and he ceaselessly causes the people of this world to drink that nectar.”